



ذكريات البهادر

Al-Bahadur Recollections

Issue 4, Ramadan 1430H | September 2009



"TERRORIZING YOU, WHILE YOU ARE CARRYING ARMS IN OUR LAND, IS A LEGITIMATE RIGHT AND A MORAL OBLIGATION.

THESE YOUTHS LOVE DEATH AS YOU LOVE LIFE.

THESE YOUTHS WILL NOT ASK YOU FOR EXPLANATIONS.

THEY WILL SING OUT THAT THERE IS NOTHING BETWEEN US THAT NEEDS TO BE EXPLAINED,"



THE MEN BEHIND 9/11 AND THE MOTIVES THAT BOUND THEM



Last Moments Before 9/11 | 9/11 & Global Financial Crisis | Michael Scheuer letter to ALQ

ذكريات الجهاد

Jihad Recollections

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EDITORS

As many of you may have picked up, this issue appears different from the ones before. This issue will actually be a special dedication to 9/11. Many of you may have also noticed the harsh words Shaykh Usama had for America on the cover; would a man say such a thing to anger more Muslims or due to taking revenge upon America on behalf of the **dead** Islamic world?

It takes a lot of thinking and self-reflection to look beyond the physical damage on that day in order to see the actual results of the attack and the revival in the Islamic world that has been created due to it. When Muslims hear of 9/11, they either stop to say 'it was a conspiracy against Islam and the Muslims', or say, 'over 3,000 innocents were killed that day'. This is where the majority of Muslims stand. It is only a few of them that can actually look through the rubbles and single out the ripe fruits.

It is quite difficult to do such a thing when you don't have a place to start, a launching pad of some sort. We have thus dedicated this issue to become that launching pad for all Muslims. In this dark and deceptive world which the neo-Crusaders and Zionists attempt to define for us, it is easy to be strayed into their interpretation of events, especially on an issue which is as fragile as 9/11. It is important to note that Muslims did indeed die on that day, but they were in no way targeted as they were working in the towers which stood as the Economic pride of the modern day neo-Crusaders. Muslims must differentiate between what the original target was along with its intention and those who happened to be there at that moment. It was not an attack on humanity but an attack on the symbols of the new world order that seeks to control the Muslims from within as well as from its external forces. The planes attacking New York and Washington then resulted in setting free the slavery mindset from the Muslims who were lost in the world of confusion.

You, as an individual, stared on that day at the Might and Glory of America crumbling. You would have never thought on that day that hundreds of thousands of Muslims would flock to the victory of Islam years later, taking a part in bringing back our Might and Glory, which is only for Allah alone. On that day, you would have never thought that America, her allies, and the dictatorships in the Muslim world would be exposed for their clear hatred of Islam in its unadulterated form. You stood and watched as the world stood and watched. We all saw together the beginning of America's demise and the rise of Islam's head.

Eight years later, you witness that the numbers in the Islamic uprising against global infidelity has surpassed everyone's expectations. The global movement has supporters and sympathizers of all types ranging from the business-wearing merchants to the impoverished that have put their trust in Allah.

Here, we present to you a collection of works from our writers and thinkers as well as from a range of scholastic journalists on the subject of 9/11. We hope to continue this tradition every year, serving as a reminder that not everything you see and hear is what it appears. This day will be remembered for many years to come, so we wish to make it a resourceful magazine for the future, *In Sha' Allah*.



"I swear by Allah, your troops can't go on! Your troops are tired, tired, tired! Obama, a people which has been raised on wine, indecent acts, dance halls, and nights of sin can't possibly persevere in wars and battles, and that's why you have to reevaluate yourselves." **Shaykh Khalid bin Abd al-Rahman al-Husainan** to Obama.

"He claimed that he was going to hand himself over to Saudi authorities and make a statement to his followers to abandon al-Qaida principles," **Yemen's foreign minister, Abu Bakr al-Qirbi**, on the mujahid that injured Saudi Prince Nayef in a martyrdom operation.

" Hamas does not ever think of establishing an Islamic state or to implement Shari'ah at this time", **Ahmed al-Betawy**, Hamas' representative in the Palestinian Council of Legislations on al-Ghad.

"The truth and reality is that you are the similar to the Khawarij who kill the people of Islam and leave those of idols..." **Shaykh Abu Muhammad al-Maqdisi**, in response to Hamas' targeting of Jund Ansar Allah.



"The battle under way today in Swat and the tribal areas isn't an internal Pakistani problem: no, it is one of the battlefields of the contemporary Crusade in which the Pakistan Army is fighting in order to help the Crusade and the Crusaders", **Dr. Ayman al-Zawahiri** in *'The Path of Doom'*.

"The cure for the illness of weakness and humiliation of Islam is Jihad – the straightest path to returning to the religion of the Lord of the Worlds, removing tyranny and restoring justice", **Dokka Umarov's Ramadan statement**.

"Jihad is a school, a hospital, and a medicine. It is why the smart, the righteous, and the faithful have gone to it," **Shaykh Mansoor al-Shami** in *'Advice for the people of Jihad'*.

"To the Taliban, winning is, in fact, not losing. They feel that over time, they will ultimately outlast the international community's attempt to stabilize Afghanistan. It's really a game of will to them." **Military officials** on the war with the Taliban.

"Given the hundreds of billions of dollars that the 'war on terror' has consumed, the failure to capture or kill al Qaeda's leader is one of its signal failures."

Peter Bergen in *'Where's Osama bin Laden?'*

Soundbytes is a collection of notable short quotations from various people within the last month(s). Its objective is to keep the readers updated on international and domestic politics, the worldwide economy, social life and religion.



KNOWLEDGE IS FOR ACTING UPON

SHAYKH USAMA BIN LADIN

DR. AYMAN AL-ZAWAHIRI

AMERICAN AIRLINES FLIGHT 11

UNITED AIRLINES FLIGHT 175

AMERICAN AIRLINES FLIGHT 77

UNITED AIRLINES FLIGHT 93

MUHAMMAD 'ATTA
WALEED AL-SHEHRI
WAIL AL-SHEHRI
'ABD AL-'AZIZ AL-'UMARI
SATAM AL-SUQAMI

MARWAN AL-SHEHRI
FAYEZ BANI HAMMAD
MOHAND AL-SHEHRI
HAMZA AL-GHAMDI
AHMED AL-GHAMDI

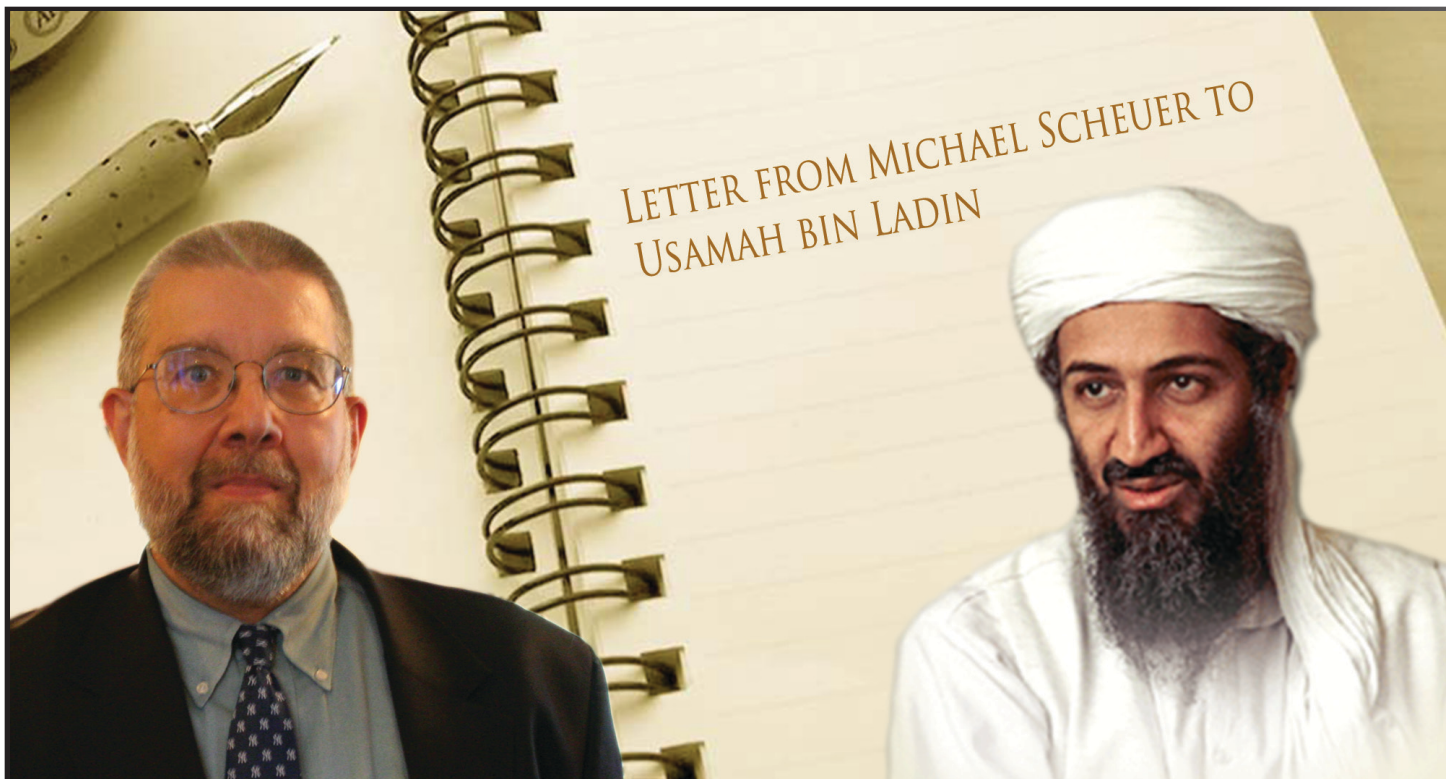
HANI HANJOUR
KHALID AL-MIHDAR
MAJED MOQED
NAWAF AL-HAZMI
SALEM AL-HAZMI

ZIAD JARRAH
AHMED AL-HAZNAWI
AHMED AL-NAMI
SA'EED AL-GHAMDI

NOW PLAYING

PART 1: [HTTP://WWW.ARCHIVE.ORG/DETAILS/ATTACK-SEPTEMBER-](http://www.archive.org/details/ATTACK-SEPTEMBER-)

PART 2: [HTTP://WWW.ARCHIVE.ORG/DETAILS/INVASION911](http://www.archive.org/details/INVASION911) PART2



The following is taken from Michael Scheuer's book, 'Marching Toward Hell: America and Islam after Iraq'. It has been carefully transcribed by 'Abdullah al-Irhabi. Michael intended to show America what the reality of this war would look like from the perspective of al-Qa'idah. In his book, he quotes Robert E. Lee on page 215 as saying, "The better rule is to judge our adversaries from their standpoint, not from our own". Ten pages later, Michael decides to write a letter to Usamah bin Ladin to make American citizens more aware of how al-Qa'idah members think and the necessity in looking at how they view the world. We post this here as it is a good beginning point in understanding the mentality of the Mujahideen.

To: Al-Qaeda's headquarters
 From: Al-Qaeda, Washington.
 Subject: Assessing the Jihad Against America

Brothers Osama and Ayman,

First, I give all praise and thanks to Allah for His grace and mercies, and then to our prophet, peace be upon him, for the soundest advice and the truest guidance. Next, brothers, I give thanks for your messages this year to the American people, especially Osama's recent speeches, offering Americans another

chance to embrace Islam. Your statements are clear and practical. You spoke directly to Americans and not to their arrogant leaders. You warned them that our Al Qaeda brothers are nearly ready to again attack inside the United States, and that they will do so unless US policies in the Islamic world are changed. All Muslims now know that you have gone many extra miles to warn the American people, and thereby, you have fully obeyed the traditions of the Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, and followed the honorable practices of Saladdin, Islam's first great defender against the Medieval Christian Crusaders.

But sadly, dear brothers, I do not believe the Americans will heed your words. Though you spoke directly to them, they have heard President Bush and Vice-President Cheney describe your warnings as words of desperation, and contemptuously reject your truce offer by flipantly proclaiming, "We don't negotiate with terrorists, we put them out of business." Brothers, many Americans are going to die because of their leaders' arrogance, and while regrettable, this arrogance is good news for Al-Qaeda and its allies. It means the government of the world's richest and most powerful nation still does not understand the motivation of the mujahideen,

the goals for which we fight, or God's promise of victory that makes us steadfast.

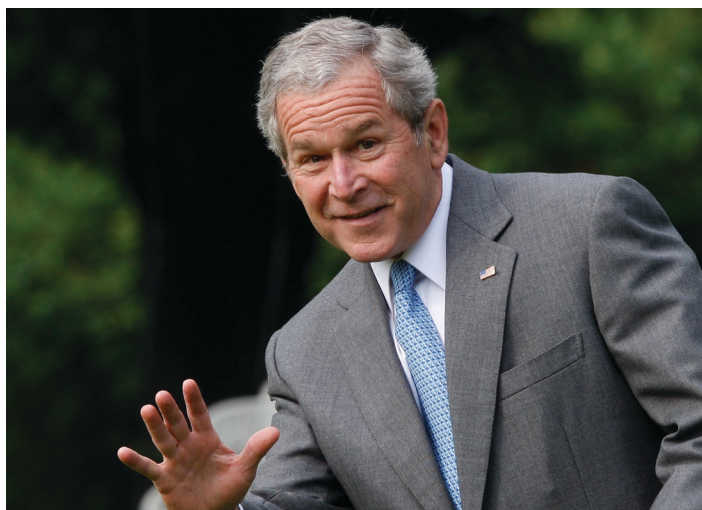
To begin, brothers, let me just say that I have rigorously followed your directions. As a white American Muslim covert, I and my family have lived an ordinary life here in the suburbs outside Washington. After more than a decade, and on the eve of Al Qaeda's next attack on America, I thought it best to send you my assessment of what I see as the downside and the upside of our fighting the United States, and on which side the balance of advantage currently stands in the war Brother Osama calls the "Bleed America to Bankruptcy Struggle." Brothers, we must always keep focused on the huge downside of this war. We are being hunted and attacked by the most powerful nation in history. And despite the heavy personnel losses, Al-Qaeda and its allies have suffered, may God accept them as martyrs; the United States has not yet made its full power felt. The American leaders appear to believe that we are afraid of and intimidated by their military power. Brothers, these are not the Americans who annihilated their enemies in Germany and Japan. These are the Americans of Vietnam, but even weaker in terms of resolve and ferocity.

Still, the American people hate us intensely for the September raid of the Blessed 19, may God reward them. And their efforts against us are powered by an amazingly productive economy that has recovered much of what was lost from that blow. With this in mind, brothers, we should rejoice over the 2006

US election results and falling public support for the war in Iraq. But we should not deceive ourselves into believing that the American people hate us with any less venom. Indeed, it is my view that the American people are far more bloody-minded than their leaders, and would have supported and applauded a far more aggressive and destructive war against us than Washington has waged.

Another problem for us, brothers, is that American society, although far from perfectly equitable, is on the whole tolerant, including toward its Muslim citizens. At this time, brothers, we do not have in America the advantage provided by the racist and anti-Islamic policies followed by the European Union countries. We therefore have hard and dangerous organizational work to do in the United States because we cannot wait for the demographic victory that will occur in Europe, where, as Brother Ayman has said, Allah is ensuring that the cradles of Muslim homes will ultimately return Spain and all of Europe to the Muslim Ummah.

The upside is that God has given His enemy incompetent leaders. Believe me, the American leaders are either soundly asleep, unwilling to face reality, or fundamentally stupid. Based on my experiences, observations, discussions, and studies, US leaders do not have a clue as to what their war with us is about. This is, thanks to God, our greatest advantage. As examples, I cite the following for your consideration:





a) They do not understand our motivation. As Brother Al-Amreeki would put it, they have not figured out what “makes us tick”. Their political leaders of both parties, as well as their media, military, economic, and academic elites continue to claim Al Qaeda hates America for what it believes and how it lives and not for what the United States does in the Islamic world. Only God’s love for Muslim believers could have kept our enemies deceiving themselves for so long.

b) The Americans are ham-strung by what some here call “political correctness”, which is a refusal to discuss matters of serious danger to their country because such debate might upset domestic politics. Brothers, the indictment of the US policy in the Muslim World, that you have so clearly outlined, has put them at a disadvantage. For to publicly debate the policies you have identified as a tax on Islam would be to ignite a firestorm in US politics. For each policy is a political poison. First, US support for Israel. Second, US support for nations that oppress Muslims. Third, US energy policy. Fourth, US support for Muslim tyrannies. And fifth, US military presence in the Arabian peninsula and other Muslim countries.

Brothers, as I have already said, God has made America blind to the hatred that the impact of their policies in the Islamic world is earning them. But they also seem blind to the impact on Muslims, of their behavior at Guantanamo Bay, Abu Ghraib prison, toward the Holy Qur’an, their decision to burn the bodies of martyred Taliban mujahideen, and their killing of Afghan and Iraqi civilians. US leaders treat these issues as manageable public relations problems, and do not see, thanks to God for their blindness, that their behavior is causing some Muslims to hate Americans simply because they are Americans. Brother Osama has said that that many Americans are good people, and wise people, and are therefore hard to hate. But now, may God be praised, their actions at Guantanamo, Abu Ghraib, and toward God’s Holy Book are beginning to make them hated as a people. And, Brothers, the Americans are unknowingly sacrificing a precious asset; their reputation for fairness, decency, and as champions of freedom for all peoples. With God’s grace, many more believers will come to jihad when they learn to hate Americans as well as American policy.





To go on, and by God, Brothers, brace yourselves, I tell you that US leaders in both political parties continue to tell their people that Al Qaeda and its allies have nothing to do with our blessed religion, nothing to do with great Islam. The American leaders also call us criminals, gangsters, deviants, psychopaths, murderers. They tell their people that we represent only the lunatic fringe of the lunatic fringe of the Muslim world. And so important people like President Bush, Mayor Giuliani, Mrs. Clinton, and hundreds of others in their elite group claim that “we will hunt them down one at a time and bring them to justice”. Just last spring, for example, the Americans celebrated the death of our valiant Taliban brother Mullah Dadullah as if it would badly hurt the jihad in Afghanistan. US and NATO leaders cited the death as proof that their goal of killing or capturing those that they call terrorists one at a time is working, ignoring that they have pursued this policy since 1995 and that there are many more mujahideen now than then. Pray to God that this continues, for it ensures that they will not recognize our movement is large and growing. US leaders refuse to recognize that Al Qaeda’s 20 year campaign to instigate Muslims to jihad across the world is succeeding. With attacks in Madrid and London, the growth of Islamist networks in Europe, North America, Southeast Asia, in Central Asia, and, all praise to God, an increasing flow of Muslim men from around the world to fight as mujahideen in Iraq and Afghanistan. Those fighters who survive, and may God accept those who fall as martyrs, will return to their native lands with military skill to impart to others, and most important, an ardent faith in God and His promise of victory. For all this, pray God let

the Americans continue to believe and loudly preach that we are just gangsters.

And, Brothers, the Americans have not found serious men to lead them. God has blessed us with this reality for nearly 20 years. 6 years after the 9/11 raids US leaders have not closed their borders or found out who is in their country. The American politicians lack the wisdom and moral courage to enforce the immigration laws they have passed. God is great. They refuse to stop illegal immigration because they loudly assert, “America is a beacon of liberty to the world that we do not want to dim.” Our brothers now move unnoticed here in a pool of illegal immigrants that exceeds 11 million. Pray God that America long maintains this glow of liberty, which provides a light that warms, guides, and shelters Al-Qaeda fighters and the many members of other jihad groups based in the United States.

Because the incompetence I have just described is difficult to credit, let me tell you, Brothers, several items that the media are reporting about what America’s non-serious leaders have said and done during the year past. Notwithstanding the raids by the heroic nineteen, the US Department of Homeland Security has for the past two years significantly underfunded the defense of New York City and Washington. And other reports say virtually no US city is prepared to cope with another attack. More than a decade after Al Qaeda’s declaration of war, senior FBI officials have said their institution and officers do not need expertise about Muslims, Islam, and the Middle East. Clearly, Brothers, the infidel’s police forces in Britain, Canada, and even Australia are gaining knowledge

about Al-Qaeda's activities, and they threaten our operations.

We have no such worries in the United States, where the FBI revels in its ignorance of Islam. Since 2004, two US intelligence chiefs, Mr. Goss and Mr. Negroponte, have said that they have knowledge of the location of Al-Qaeda's leaders, and even of Brother Osama's location. They said that all are based in Pakistan, but that they would not hunt and attack them there because of respect for the country's sovereignty. Then in December 2004, Mr. Goss proved himself a liar by ordering an attack inside Pakistan on Brother Ayman. In other words, Brothers, US leaders first said they were willing to let us kill Americans rather than upset, anger, and endanger the reign of their agent Musharraf. Then they changed their minds, tried to kill Brother Ayman, and almost wrecked their ties to the apostate Musharraf, who as you have written, Brother Ayman, is the most important US ally in the war against us and the only one who has hurt Al Qaeda and impeded its operations.

Inexplicably, President Bush followed this blow to Musharraf by traveling to India and agreeing to give US assistance to India's nuclear program, thereby strengthening Pakistan's mortal enemy and shaming Musharraf in front of the Pakistani General Officer Corps that put him in power and keep him there.

Brothers, it is with some embarrassment that I tell you that I cannot explain these counter-productive US actions, but we must thank Him for whom all things are possible for them.

Brothers, there is one more great advantage Al Qaeda enjoys through God's grace. And that is the practice of all US leaders to publicly define the status of our war against America only in terms of the detonation of explosives. May the Almighty God keep them mired in this dream. Brothers, as those who read history know, war is much more than detonating explosives. And the mujahideen's non-explosive attacks on America, with God's help, have continued with telling effect every day since 9/11. We are slowly changing the way of life of many everyday Americans. People here are upset and angry with the difficulties of air travel. People here are also appalled by security that requires the children of grammar school classes to empty their pockets and clear metal detectors before entering an art museum. In the area where I live near Washington, people worry about the under-siege look of the city. One man said to me in wonder, "Roosevelt did not have this much protection in all of World War II." I also have heard people express anger over what are at times invasive and militarized security procedures in the capital of the world's most powerful nation, often citing the 2004 presidential inauguration as a graphic example. "We behave as if we are scared to death,"



they said. Americans are worried, thanks to God, by the spiraling federal budget deficit. Brothers, it is impossible to imagine the amount of money the US government is spending on what it calls Homeland Security and on the wars it is waging to kill Muslims in Afghanistan, Iraq, Palestine, Somalia, and elsewhere. A famous American economist and financier recently published a book saying, "The US government is in a weakened financial position to respond to another terrorist attack." And so when Al Qaeda next strikes the United States, Americans will know that all this spending has been for naught, and that immense additional amounts will be required. We will then tear the heart out of their economy, and their morale as well.

As an indication of the future, the warning of more attacks issued by brother Osama in 2006 drove up the price of oil and gold and caused US stocks to drop by 200 points. Americans are frightened. More than half believe that another Al Qaeda attack is inevitable. Moreover, Americans are both angry and fearful that the erosion of their civil liberties is worsening because of President Bush's eavesdropping on telephone conversations inside the United States, secretly assessing private bank records, and profiling each American air traveler. Because Americans have not experienced war on their soil since the 1860s, they regard necessary war measures as evidence of incipient dictatorship. Brother Osama's 2001 judgment has proven to be accurate. Al Qaeda needs to do nothing to terrorize Americans, because their leaders and the media will reliably perform that task. And nothing clarifies that reality more than the enhanced fears caused, not by a new Al Qaeda attack, but by the mid-2007 publication of the National Intelligence Estimate on our presence in the United States and the media's reporting about it.

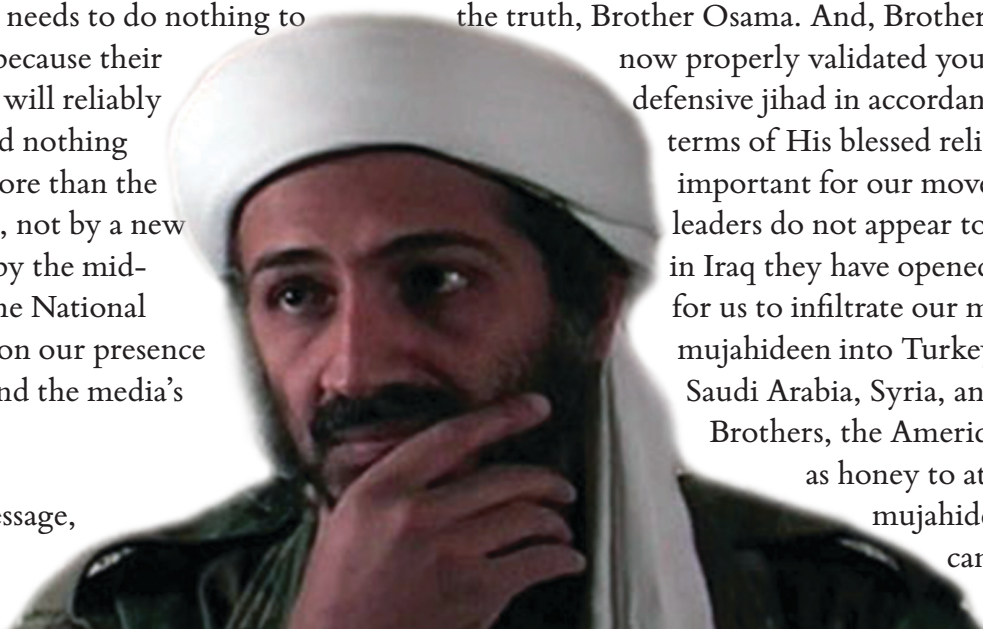
Before ending this message, Brothers, I want to specifically focus on

Iraq, where the great and happy news is that God seems to have rendered US leaders ignorant of the wondrous opportunities they have opened for all mujahideen by invading and occupying the country. The Americans are now occupying the three most holy places in Islam; the Arabian Peninsula, Iraq, and Jerusalem. Regarding Jerusalem, US leaders know but shield from Americans the fact that they are viewed by Muslims as interchangeable with Israelis. Muslim hatred for Israelis also accrues to Americans and will be increased by Washington's recent gift of 30 billion dollars worth of US arms to Israel to help it murder Muslims. And by invading and occupying Iraq, the US government has created a magnet for mujahideen even more powerful than that which Moscow created in Afghanistan, the first blessed land of jihad.

And, Brother Osama, by occupying Iraq, US leaders, through their disregard or ignorance of your words, have made your predictions come true in the eyes of the Muslim Ummah. You said America would destroy strong Muslim states, and it did. You said America would destroy strong Muslim regimes that threaten Israel, and it did. You said America would seize Muslim oil, and it did. You said America would try to destroy our religion and occupy our holy places, and it did. You said America will replace God's law with blasphemous man-made law and secular governments, and it did. Praise to the Almighty God for showing you the truth, Brother Osama. And, Brothers, God has

now properly validated your call for a defensive jihad in accordance with the terms of His blessed religion. More important for our movement, US leaders do not appear to see that in Iraq they have opened the door for us to infiltrate our message and mujahideen into Turkey, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Syria, and Jordan.

Brothers, the Americans see Iraq as honey to attract the mujahideen so they can be killed there, and



President Bush and his administration teach the American people that if the US military fights our brothers in Iraq, they will not have to be fought in the United States. Do they not know there are 1.4 billion Muslims? Brothers, American leaders have still failed to recognize that they have built a West-bound highway for the mujahideen that leads from Afghanistan, through Iraq, to the Levant and beyond. It will be too late, God willing, when Washington discovers that the flow of non-Iraqi mujahideen through Iraq into the Levant, Turkey, and the Arabian Peninsula, is far more dangerous to their interests than the mujahideen entering Iraq from Syria, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia.

For now, Brothers, the good news for the mujahideen outweighs the bad by a large measure. Our main advantage now lies in the failure of US leaders to understand their Islamist enemies. We also benefit from the paralyzing and contemptible fear that the US leaders have of fully employing America's overwhelming military power. Overall, Brothers, it is my assessment, and God knows best, that the US leaders' combination of historical ignorance and moral cowardice is, with God's support, a potential war-winner for the mujahideen. As you know, Brothers, God told our beloved prophet, God's peace and blessings be upon him, that He will only help those who do everything possible to help themselves. And so we must continue to carry this war to the Americans, while they remain asleep. Our strategy must continue to be as the prophet, God's peace and blessings be upon him, said to Satan, "I will give thee no respite."

Brothers, may Allah's peace and blessings be upon you.



So the fortresses of Infidelity fell to the ground...

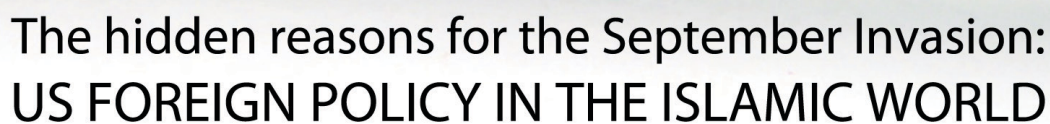
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I. Introduction

The creation of the State of Israel was long in development and had the support of Western Powers including the United States. The United Kingdom maintained control over the area of modern day Israel but allowed the Jews in Palestine to attack the weaker Palestinians.¹ The United Kingdom was supposed to maintain order, but failed to control the ambitions of the Jews. This failure to restrain the Jews in the region would lead to the creation of the Israeli State. The State of Israel was created on May 15, 1948 as the Jewish National Council² declared independence from the United Kingdom. The history of Jewish aggression anyone that opposed their views is scarcely studied. The actions of the Irgun, a militant Jewish terrorist group that operated in Palestine between 1931 and 1948, are hardly ever mentioned. Despite the auspicious origins of the Jewish State, the United States was quick to recognize the newly declared nation. This immediate acceptance would play a crucial role in the rest of the world accepting the new state of Israel. This acceptance was the culmination of broken Western promises to the Islamic world.

The 1948 Arab/Israeli war was pivotal because of the lack of involvement of the United States in the conflict. The United States lack of support for the Palestinians and the Islamic world could also have been viewed as tacit approval of the State of Israel. While the United States maintained an “arms” embargo they did nothing to limit Israeli aggression during the conflict. In fact there was Jewish pressure to life the “arms” embargo against

II. Creation of Israel



Israel.³ The aggression of the 1948 conflict could be aptly demonstrated by the assassination of Count Folke Bernadotte who was a United Nations Security Council Mediator. Bernadotte was possibly assassinated by elements of the Irgun, a militant Jewish terrorist group that supposedly was no longer active in 1948.⁴ The 1948 conflict was perhaps a foreshadowing of future events where the United States would remain silent in the face of continued Israeli aggression.

III. Interventions in the Islamic World

After World War II the United States was willing to exercise its newly found power and exercise influence in the Islamic world. The Islamic world is rich with natural resources including oil that was needed by the United States. The United States was willing to become involved in foreign affairs because of the need for natural resources. Often the United States benefited greatly from Arab owned resources, while the Arab people did not. A primary example of this intervention in the Middle East was Operation Ajax. Operation Ajax was a United States orchestrated coup of Iranian Prime Minister Mohammed Mosaddeq in 1953. Mosaddeq nationalized Iran's oil industry in 1951 taking over control from Western oil companies.⁵ The most important aspect of this coup was that Mosaddeq was the democratically elected leader of his nation.⁶ This coup is considered to be a massive failure because of its "haunting and terrible legacy".⁷ The United States would make sure that they had influence in the Middle East in order to gain access to the abundant resources. The United States would form a relationship with the government of Saudi Arabia, the most important oil producer in the Middle East.

IV. Control of Oil

The lessons learned in the 1951 Iranian nationalization of oil would motivate the United States to secure allies in the Middle East. This was often done with forming relationships with unsavory actors and implementing imperialist foreign policy in the region. The US actions in Iran in 1953 could be classified as one of the first attempts by the United States to control and protect oil interests in the Middle East. This desire to control and protect US oil interests in the Middle East would lead the United States to form a powerful partnership with Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia⁸, a highly despotic regime that is often accused of human rights violations serves as the United States oil ally in the Middle East. The United States would serve as protector of Saudi Arabia signing a mutual defense act in 1951.⁹

For their part Saudi Arabia would serve the United States by advocating for the United States in the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). Countries that did not have close relationships would often find allies in other oil producing countries. However, with OPEC the United States with the help of Saudi Arabia could minimize the power and influence of countries that opposed or disagreed with the United States. The United States could then use less overt means to influence and control countries with valuable natural resources. However, the United States would still make foreign policy decisions that alienated many countries all over the world.

V. The Soviet Union

From the late 1940's until the late 1980's the United States was engaged in a Cold War with the Soviet Union that featured seminal events including: the Berlin Blockade, the Korean War, launch of Sputnik, the Cuban Missile Crisis, Vietnam War,

and the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.¹⁰ Many of these events would take place in the third world as both nations vied for position.¹¹ The Cold War featured conflicts between proxies of the United States and the Soviet Union on almost every continent. The Soviet Union was also involved in the Islamic world including Libya, Egypt, and Iraq.¹² The Soviet Union looked to secure oil resources and protect shipping lanes that were of significant interest. These oil resources and shipping lanes were also of great importance to western powers.¹³ The United States would implement a policy of containment of communism in order to limit the influence of the Soviet Union. This policy of containment would play out in the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979.

The United States involvement in Afghanistan is vitally important in understanding the road to 9-11. The United States was looking to pay the Soviet Union back for Soviet involvement in Korea and Vietnam. The conflict in Afghanistan was so important that United States National Security Advisor to Jimmy Carter, Zbigniew Brzezinski stated in an interview “we now have the opportunity

of giving to the Soviet Union its Vietnam War.”¹⁴ The United States underestimated the strength of the *Mujahideen* that would flock to this conflict. These *Mujahideen* would be instrumental in the defeat of the Soviet Union. Conversely, the Soviet Union would cease to exist just two years after their humiliating defeat in Afghanistan.¹⁵

VI. Road to 9-11

After the Soviet Union was defeated in Afghanistan in February of 1989 the dynamic of the Cold War had changed.¹⁶ The *Mujahideen* had defeated a super power and the Islamic world felt a collective power. These humble *Mujahideen*, who many in the Islamic world, could identify as humble slaves of Allah. Many in the Islamic world though that if these humble slaves of Allah could defeat the Soviet Union, what could the Islamic world collectively accomplish.

The First Gulf War was a very important conflict because it showed to what length that the United States would go to protect oil interests in the Islamic world.¹⁷ The foreign policy decision to put American troops in Saudi Arabia shows the lack of understanding of Islam. It should have been known that American troops guarding the birthplace of Islam would have massive blowback. The United

States went out of its way to replace the Soviet Union as the enemy of the *Mujahideen*. The egregious foreign policy decisions and unflagging support of the corrupt Saudi regime invited 9-11.

VII. 9-11 and Iraq War

The attacks of 9-11 as mentioned earlier did not appear in a vacuum, but was the culmination of years of horrible decisions and unjust actions. The response to 9-11 was an unjust war against a defenseless country. The excessive use of force in Afghanistan along with the indiscriminate killing of civilian, have eroded any good will that the United States had after 9-11. The United States continued their imperial intentions by invading Iraq in 2003. This was done under the guise of “liberation”, but again was done for natural resources owned by Muslims.

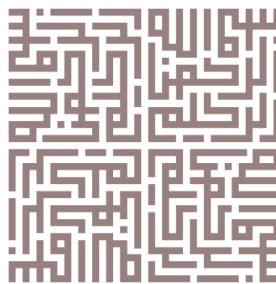
The United States decided to invade Iraq, a conflict that has no connection to the 9-11 attacks. The United States quickly set up Western oil companies to work in Iraq after the overthrow of Saddam Hussein. This action was eerily similar to previous colonial powers taking raw natural resources and sending them back



to their empires. The United States ulterior motives in the Islamic world, along with its disrespect of the Iraq people further incensed the Islamic world. The United States has also disrespected Islam calling their actions in the Islamic world a, 'crusade'.

VIII. Conclusion

The United States may not have anticipated a most unusual reaction to their latest imperial actions in the Islamic world. This unusual reaction is the rebirth of the Islamic *Ummah* and a renewed sense of identity. It has long been demonstrated that the Islamic world was once the envy of the entire world. The contributions of Islamic Empires to mankind and to history are almost endless. The ancestors of the same people that followed Muhammad (peace be upon him) have been awakened and are ready to take their place as rulers of their own destiny. The only country that seemingly stands in the way of this happening is the United States. Why did the United States make foreign policy decisions that alienated millions and angered many more? Perhaps it was because they were focused on securing their place as the dominant hegemony in the world. Whatever the reasons for their actions, and much like other empires in the past that subjugated weaker peoples and suffered blowback, the United States is suffering from their own follies. The blowback suffered by the United States may not only be damaging but could prove potentially fatal to the world only remaining super power.



[1] International terrorism & American foreign relations, 1945-1976
By Robert D. Kumamoto

[2] See, http://archive.timesonline.co.uk/tol/viewArticle.arc?articleId=ARCHIVE-The_Times-1948-05-15-04-001&pageId=ARCHIVE-The_Times-1948-05-15-04

[3] See, <http://www.scribd.com/doc/9302856/E-Karsh-The-ArabIsraeli-Conflict-The-Palestine-War-1948-2002>

[4] International terrorism & American foreign relations, 1945-1976
By Robert D. Kumamoto

[5] Stephen Kinzer: "All the Shah's Men. An American Coup and the Roots of Middle East Terror", John Wiley and Sons, 2003

[6] Ibid.

[7] Ibid.

[8] See, <http://countrystudies.us/saudi-arabia/59.htm>

[9] Ibid.

[10] See, http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/ops/cold_war.htm

[11] The Global Cold War: Third World Interventions and the Making of our Times

Odd Arne Westad , Cambridge University Press

[12] The Global Cold War: Third World Interventions and the Making of our Times, Odd Arne Westad

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[13] See, <http://countrystudies.us/russia/88.htm>

[14] See, <http://www.globalresearch.ca/articles/BRZ110A.html>

[15] The rise and fall of the Soviet Empire By Raymond Pearson

[16] The Global Cold War: Third World Interventions and the Making of our Times, Odd Arne Westad

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[17] See, http://www.brookings.edu/articles/2002/spring_globalenvironment_telhami.aspx



Shaykh Usama's
Tora Bora Speech

[HTTP://WWW.MEGAUPLOAD.COM/?D=VJYEG7HF](http://www.megaupload.com/?d=VJYEG7HF)



An unforgotten Sentiment *as narrated by Abdel Bari Atwan*

The following is a section taken from Abdel Bari Atwan's book, "The Secret History al-Qaeda" (pgs.86-7).

The events of 11 September 2001 made an indelible mark on the world. Al-Qaeda became uniquely dangerous in the history of guerrilla warfare as the first group to explicitly advocate and encourage the mass murder of civilians, a direction it has continued to pursue with horrifying atrocities like the bombings in Bali, Madrid and London, among others.

For the jihadi movement, however, 11 September was a day of undreamed-of victory; the day that defined al-Qaeda as a global military force to be reckoned with and bin Laden as a figurehead for the resurgence of the Muslim nation. They had struck at the heart of the enemy and, symbolically, at all it holds dear – the World Trade Center represented financial power; the Pentagon, military might; and had the third plane reached its intended target, the White House, the seat of American democracy would also have been demolished.

Western viewers cringed at a video of bin Laden laughingly describing the collapse of the Twin Towers and celebrating his victory, but from the jihadi perspective this was a great military triumph.

A significant number of ordinary Muslims, perhaps despite themselves, also felt a sense of victory that a blow had been struck at America. A young Yemeni female journalist, Rahma Hugira, was interviewed on the US television network CBS shortly after 11 September, and said:

I didn't used to think that I could support violence. When I saw the World Trade Center and the Pentagon burn, I cried, I fainted with joy. And I prayed that God would help al-Qaeda... if I have nothing else to offer, my last resort is to raise two or three children to become

Sheikh Osama bin Laden's. What we all see in Osama bin Laden is the man who was able to take our revenge, to wipe the tears that have been falling for a long time for our brethren in Palestine and Iraq. Through him divine justice was achieved when America was shaken on 11 September.

Recruitment soared, as did the credibility of al-Qaeda. For millions of Muslims, bin Laden was now perceived as a leader who could deliver.

The events of 11 September marked a shift in the relationship between al-Qaeda and the general public in Western nations. Through the cruel directness of mass killing, al-Qaeda began a dialogue with the people rather than their governments.

Since 11 September, al-Qaeda has had a huge impact on the internal affairs of some Western countries. In Spain, for example, the Madrid transport system bombings of 11 March 2004, which killed 200 people, forced a change of government: in the subsequent general election voters chose the Socialist Party leader Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero, who had promised to withdraw Spanish troops from Iraq. The people of Spain evidently made a direction connection between their country's support for the invasion of Iraq and al-Qaeda's attack on them (by contrast Tony Blair, following the London bombings, refused to do so). Bin Laden responded by offering the Spanish people a truce.

In Britain and the US, al-Qaeda's activities have resulted in the imposition of draconian legislation. Claiming to protect the population from 'terror' the Bush and Blair governments have effectively chipped away at their civil liberties. Ironically, this feeds into al-Qaeda's strategy, which explicitly aims to foment insurrection among increasingly oppressed and disaffected Western citizens.



FBI's John O'Neill: The great rival of Usama, killed on 9/11

by Abu Risaas

Years before the invasion that gave direction to world politics, there was an egotistic leader in the FBI that was on the hunt for Shaykh Usama bin Ladin. Sitting on his couch in his living room for hours at night, John O'Neill would carefully stare at the television set, watching the words, movements, and actions of his arch nemesis. He would grab whatever he could get his hands on to take notice of Shaykh Usama. John was indeed a pioneer in the FBI in leading the hunt against al-Qa'idah's leader.

Much before Shaykh Usama waged a fierce campaign against America, nobody believed in John. Indeed, John was much ahead of his time. In fact, it was John who uncovered quite a few links in the al-Qa'idah network, which linked back to Shaykh Usama. He had help capture Ramzi Yousef, the leader of the 1993 World Trade Center plot. He also was given the green light to investigate the 1996 Khobar Towers bombing in Saudi Arabia. Due to the Saudi authorities reluctance in helping him out – for reasons most likely related to Public Relations – he wasn't able to retract much information. At around the same time, he started to make statements that the *mujahideen* that fought against the Soviets are becoming a threat to the nation. The *mujahideen* in Afghanistan had “beat one of the largest standing armies in the world at that time, which gave them a buoyed sense of success and that they could take on other countries like the US and be likewise successful”.¹

In 1998, Shaykh Usama declared war against

America in his treatise entitled, ‘World Islamic Front for Jihad against Jews and Crusaders’. Later that year, the American embassies were torn apart by powerful bombs in Nairobi, Kenya and Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania. O'Neill however was not granted the authority to go after leads and was forced to remain in his New York office. It was events like these that caused an inner strife in the FBI.

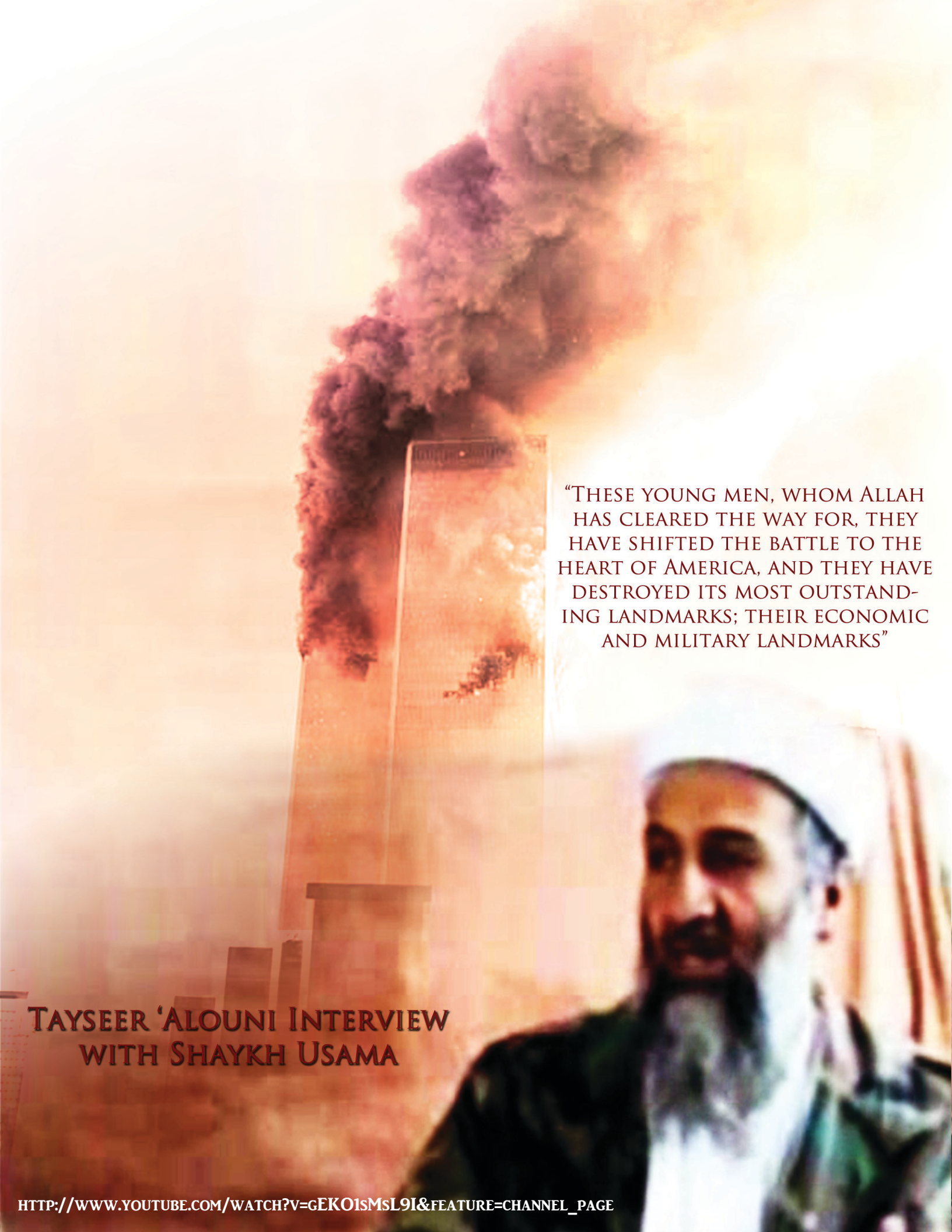
When al-Qa'idah devastated the USS Cole in 2000 with a martyrdom operation, O'Neill was granted permission to lead the investigation. His team was not that successful in exposing as much of the al-Qa'idah network as they wanted to due to inadequate security and internal conflict between himself and Ambassador Bodine.² Eventually, the internal quarrels got to John's head and he retired from the FBI in 2001.

John then accepted a job as head of security at the World Trade Center which he was due to start on September 11th, 2001. The night before, John met up with his friend Jerry Hauer at a restaurant. John said to him, “We're due. And we're due for something big. Some things have happened in Afghanistan. I don't like... the way things are lining up in Afghanistan. I just -- I sense a shift, and I think things are going to happen”. Jerry asked, “When?” He said, “I don't know, but soon”.³ The next morning, John's history came to an end. The man who had the potential of uncovering al-Qa'idah's international army was stopped to a halt by this very army.

2 See <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/knew/etc/script.html>

3 Ibid.

1 See <http://edition.cnn.com/2001/US/09/21/vic.body.terror.expert/>



"THESE YOUNG MEN, WHOM ALLAH
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ING LANDMARKS; THEIR ECONOMIC
AND MILITARY LANDMARKS"

**TAYSEER 'ALOUNI INTERVIEW
WITH SHAYKH USAMA**



THE LAST MOMENTS

AS NARRATED BY LAWRENCE WRIGHT

The following is an account of the hours before the New York and Washington raids by Lawrence Wright in his book, 'The Looming Tower' (pgs. 354–360). This section of his book also discusses the end of John O'Neill, a man who was after Usama bin Ladin and his network.

THE MOMENT O'NEILL LEFT THE FBI, his spirits lifted. People remarked that he seemed light on his feet for the first time in months, perhaps years. He talked about getting a new Mercedes to replace his aging Buick. He told Anna DiBattista that they could now afford to get married. On Saturday night, September 8, he attended a wedding at the Plaza Hotel with Valerie James, and they danced nearly every number. "I feel like a huge burden has been lifted from me," he told his former boss, Lewis Schiliro, who was at the wedding. To another friend within Val's hearing, he said, "I'm gonna get her a ring." The next day, September 9, Ahmed Shah Massoud agreed to see two Arab television journalists who had been waiting in his camp for nine days for an interview. Massoud was without doubt the greatest of the Afghan

commanders, having endured twenty-five years of warfare against the Soviets, Afghan communists, rival mujahideen, and now the combined forces of the Taliban and al-Qaeda. Massoud's capacity for survival was a powerful feature of his legend. He was the best hope Afghanistan had of a moderate Islamist alternative to the Taliban.

Zawahiri's forged letter had gotten the two phony journalists into Massoud's office. The cameraman's battery pack was filled with explosives. The bomb tore the assassins apart, killed a translator, and drove two pieces of metal into Massoud's heart.

When Ali Soufan heard the news in Yemen, he told another agent, "Bin Laden is appeasing the Taliban. Now the big one is coming." That day bin Laden and Zawahiri attended a wake for the father of the Taliban's former interior minister. Two Saudi members of al-Qaeda approached the deputy interior minister, Mullah Mohammed Khaksar, to tell him that Massoud was dead. The



Northern Alliance had claimed that Massoud was only wounded. “No, believe me, he is gone” the Saudis informed the minister. They boasted that bin Laden had given the order to kill Massoud. Now the Northern Alliance was leaderless, the last obstacle to the Taliban’s total control of the country removed by this significant favor.

On Monday, September 10, O’Neill called Robert Tucker, a friend and security-company executive, and arranged to get together that evening to talk about security issues at the World Trade Center. Tucker met O’Neill in the lobby of the north tower, and the two men rode the elevator up to O’Neill’s new office on the thirty-fourth floor. O’Neill was proud of his domain: seven buildings on sixteen acres of land with nine million square feet of office space. They went up to Windows on the World for a drink, and then drove in a downpour to Elaine’s to have dinner with their friend Jerry Hauer. O’Neill ate steak and pasta.

Elaine Kaufman, the renowned doyenne of the establishment, remembered that O’Neill nursed a glass of iced coffee with dessert. “He wasn’t an alcoholic like a lot of them,” she said. Around midnight, the three men dropped in on the China Club, a nightclub in midtown. O’Neill told his friends that something big was going to happen. “We’re overdue,” he said again. Valerie James had been out entertaining clients that evening. It was Fashion Week, and as the sales director for a major

designer, she was harried. O’Neill had called her at the office earlier and promised to be home no later than ten thirty. She finally went to bed an hour later. She woke up at one thirty and he still wasn’t home. Annoyed, she sat down at the computer and began playing a game. John came home around four and sat down next to her. “You play a mean game of solitaire, babe” he said. But Valerie felt spurned and they went to bed without speaking. The next morning she was still frosty. O’Neill came into the bathroom and put his arms around her. He said, “Please forgive me.” She was touched and said, “I do forgive you.” He offered to drive her to work and dropped her off at 8:13 in the flower district, where she had an appointment. Then he headed to the Trade Center.

BIN LADEN AND ZAWAHIRI and a small group of the inner corps of al-Qaeda fled into the mountains above Khost, near the Lion’s Den, where bin Laden’s Afghan adventure had begun. He told his men that something great was going to happen, and soon Muslims from around the world would join them in Afghanistan to defeat the superpower. The men carried a satellite dish and a television set. Before 9/11, bin Laden and his followers had been beset by vivid dreams. Normally, after the dawn prayers, if a member of al-Qaeda had a dream during the night, he would recount it, and bin Laden would divine its meaning. People who knew nothing of the plot reported dreams of a plane hitting a tall building. “We were playing a

soccer match. Our team against the Americans,” one man told bin Laden. “But the strange thing is, I was wondering why Osama made our entire team up of pilots. Was this a soccer match or an airplane?”

The al-Qaeda spokesman, Suleiman Abu Ghaith, dreamed he was watching television with bin Laden, which showed an Egyptian family at the dinner table and the eldest son dancing an Egyptian folk dance. A legend scrolled across the bottom of the screen: “To avenge the children of al-Aqsa [the mosque in Jerusalem], Osama bin Laden carries out attacks against the Americans.” When he described this to bin Laden in front of fifty other men, bin Laden simply said, “Okay, I will tell you later.” But then he abruptly banned all talk of dreams, especially those that envisioned airplanes flying into buildings, for fear that they would give the plan away. He personally dreamed of America in ashes, believing it was a prophecy.

Steve Bongardt was at his cubicle in the I-49 squad reading intelligence on his computer. There was a report that the al-Qaeda camps in Tora Bora were being revitalized. “That can’t be good” he thought. Barry Mawn was in his office when he heard an earsplitting roar. He looked out his window too late to see the plane passing, nearly at eye level, but he heard the explosion. He thought a jet hurtling down the Hudson

River had broken the sound barrier. An instant later his secretary screamed, and Mawn ran to look out her window at the burning hole in the ninety-second floor of the north tower of the Trade Center, blocks away. Mawn immediately gathered his employees. He told the SWAT and evidence recovery teams that they needed to go assist the New York police and fire departments. As an afterthought, he also dispatched the terrorism task force.

John P. O’Neill, Jr., a computer expert for MBNA in Delaware, was on his way to New York to install some equipment in his father’s new office. From the window of the train, O’Neill’s son saw smoke coming from the Trade Center. He called his father on his cell phone. O’Neill told him he was okay. He said he was headed outside to assess the damage.

The plane, carrying about nine thousand gallons of jet fuel, had crashed fifty-eight floors above O’Neill’s office. He made it to the concourse level. People weren’t panicked, they were confused. Was there a bomb? An earthquake? Nothing made sense. Water poured out of the ceiling, puddling on the marble floor. The two-story cathedral windows were shattered, and a disconcerting breeze stirred the lobby. By now, the first jumpers had broken through the windows of the north tower above the burning jet fuel. Their flailing bodies landed like





grenades. The plaza outside was set up for a noon concert, and pieces of bodies were draped over the chairs. Dozens of shoes were scattered across the tiles. There was a day-care center in the building, and O'Neill helped usher the children outside to safety.

In Afghanistan, members of al-Qaeda were having difficulty getting a signal from the satellite. One of the men cupped the dish in his hands, aiming it toward the sky, but he found only static. Finally, someone tuned a radio to the BBC Arabic service. A newscaster was finishing a report when he said there was breaking news: A plane had struck the World Trade Center in New York! The members of al-Qaeda, thinking that was the only action, cried in joy and prostrated themselves. But bin Laden said, "Wait, wait."

Ali Soufan and a handful of other agents were in the American Embassy in Yemen. Barbara Bodine had been rotated out of the country and the new ambassador had not yet arrived. Soufan was talking to his fiancée on the phone when she told him that the Trade Center had been attacked. He asked permission of the deputy chief of mission to enter the ambassador's office to turn on the TV. Just as he did, the second plane hit.

Valerie James was arranging flowers in her office

when "the phones started ringing off the hook." It was a little after nine in the morning. Her children were calling her in a panic. Finally, O'Neill called. "Honey, I want you to know I'm okay. My God, Val, it's terrible. There are body parts everywhere. Are you crying?" She was. He asked if she knew what had hit the building. She told him that her son had guessed it was a 747. Then he said, "Val, I think my employers are dead. I can't lose this job."

"They're going to need you more than ever," she told him. In Afghanistan, bin Laden also wept and prayed. The accomplishment of striking the two towers was an overwhelming signal of God's favor, but there was more to come. Before his incredulous companions, bin Laden held up three fingers.

At 9:25, Anna DiBattista, who was driving to Philadelphia on business, received a call from O'Neill. The connection was good and then it decayed. O'Neill said he was safe and outside. "Are you sure you're out of the building?" she asked. O'Neill replied that he loved her. She absolutely knew he was going back in. The cloudless sky filled with coiling black smoke and a blizzard of paper—memos, photographs, stock transactions, insurance policies—which fluttered for miles on a gentle southeasterly breeze, across the East River into Brooklyn. Debris spewed onto the streets of lower Manhattan, which were already covered with

bodies. Some of them had been exploded out of the building when the planes hit. A man walked out of the towers carrying someone else's leg. Jumpers landed on several firemen, killing them instantly.

The air pulsed with sirens as firehouses and police stations all over the city emptied, sending the rescuers, many of them to their deaths. Steve Bongardt was running toward the towers, against a stream of people racing in the opposite direction. He heard the boom of the second collision. "There's a second plane!" somebody cried. Bongardt wondered what kind of aircraft it was, perhaps a private jet that had gotten off course. Then, three blocks away from the towers, he saw one of the massive engines that had blown all the way through the tower. It had landed on a woman, who was still alive and squirming underneath. Bongardt understood then that this was the work of bin Laden. O'Neill went back into the north tower, where the fire department had set up a command post. The lobby stank of jet fuel, which was draining into the elevator shafts, creating an explosive well. Heavily laden firemen made their way up the stairs. They were used to disaster, but their eyes were filled with awe and uncertainty. Meanwhile, a slow-moving stream of people descended the escalators from the mezzanine, like a dream. They were wet and caked in slime. Some of them had come from the upper floors and were naked and badly burned. Police directed them to the underground tunnels to avoid the jumpers. A rumor raced through the room that a third plane was headed toward them. Suddenly one of the elevators, which had been paralyzed after

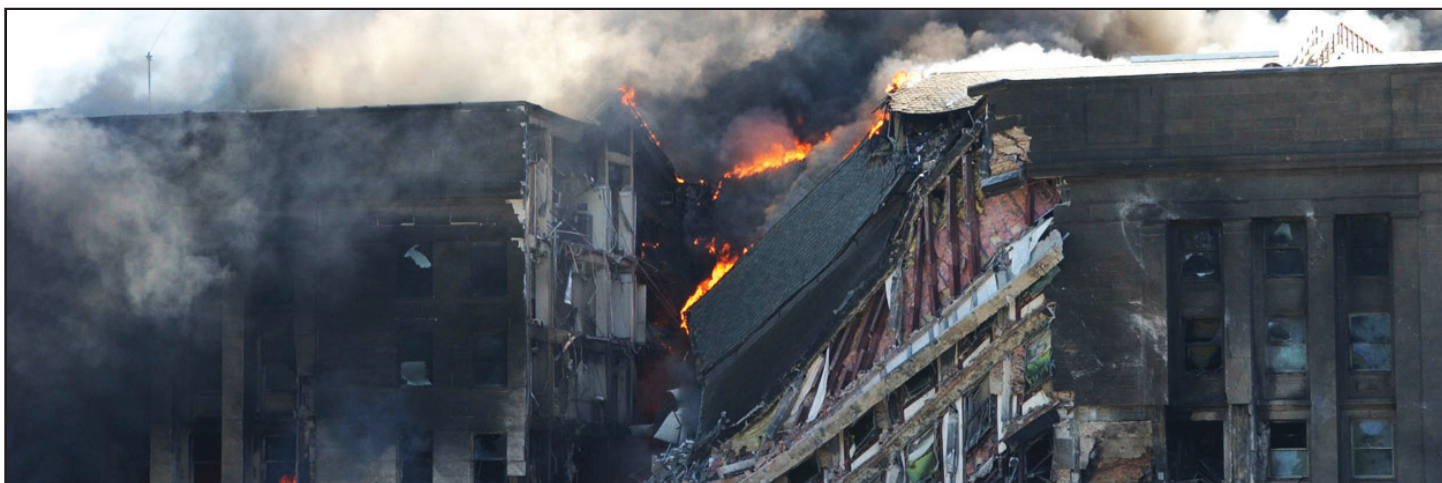
the strike, popped open, disgorging a dozen dazed people who had been trapped since the first plane hit and had no idea what had happened.

Wesley Wong, an FBI communications expert, leaped into the lobby through one of the busted-out windows, narrowly escaping the plummeting body of a middle-aged man in blue pants and a white shirt.

Wong and O'Neill had known each other for more than twenty years. Even in this confusion, O'Neill looked calm and dapper, wearing his usual dark suit with a white pocket handkerchief, only a smudge of ash on his back indicating that the bottom had fallen out of his world. O'Neill asked Wong if there was any information he could divulge, acknowledging the fact that he was now an outsider and not privy to such details. "Is it true the Pentagon has been hit?" he asked. "Gee, John, I don't know," said Wong. "Let me try to find out." But then O'Neill had trouble with the reception on his cell phone and started walking away. He said, "I'll catch up with you later." Wong last saw O'Neill walking toward the tunnel leading to the south tower.

At 9:38 a.m., the third plane had crashed into the headquarters of American military power and the symbol of its might. When news came of the Pentagon strike, bin Laden held up four fingers to his wonder-struck followers, but the final strike, on the U.S. Capitol, would fail.

Ali Soufan called O'Neill from Yemen, but could



not get a connection. Steve Gaudin, just back from language school in Vermont, picked up a piece of an airplane on the corner of Church and Vesey Streets and helplessly thought, “I just didn’t ask enough questions.” A few feet away, Barry Mawn was walking west on Vesey Street, toward the police emergency command center. He saw a woman’s foot in the street with a pink sock and a white tennis shoe. Suddenly, the ground trembled. He looked up to see the south tower collapsing on top of itself, gathering momentum and force as it threw off a great gray cloud of pulverized concrete that spilled over the surrounding office towers in a massive cascade. It sounded like an express train roaring through the station, chased by a huge wind. Mawn, plagued by a herniated disk, hobbled after two firemen who ran through the shattered windows of 7 World Trade. There were six or seven men pressed together in the lobby, sheltering behind a single column. One of the firemen cried out that they should hold on to each other and not let go. Just then, the debris blew in like a bomb. If they hadn’t been behind a column they would have been shredded. The room blacked out and the men choked on the acrid dust. Outside, everything was on fire.

Half a block away, Debbie Doran and Abby Perkins, who were on the I-49 squad, were in the basement of a building on the corner of Church and Vesey. They remembered Rosie, the woman rescue workers had failed to save in the rubble of the Nairobi bombing in 1998. She had died of dehydration. Now they expected to be buried under a building themselves, and they began filling trash cans with water. Dan Coleman was in his bureau car next to St. Paul’s Chapel, waiting for another member of the I-49 squad, when he saw a tornado coming up Broadway. It was incomprehensible. His partner ran past him, headed north. “Get in the car!” Coleman called out. Four policemen also jumped in; one of them was having a heart attack. Then the blackness of the cloud engulfed them. “Turn on the air conditioning!” one of the cops gasped. Coleman turned it on, and the car filled with smoke.

He quickly switched it off. Everybody was yelling at him to get out of there, but he couldn’t see anything. He backed up and almost rolled into a subway entrance. Then an ambulance appeared and the cops got out. Coleman abandoned the car and went to find the rest of his squad.

He walked inside the cloud against the stream of fleeing people who were like ash-covered ghouls, as if they had been exhumed. He also was as white as a snowman, and the dust was beginning to harden, turning his hair into a helmet. The dust was a compound of concrete, asbestos, lead, fiberglass, paper, cotton, jet fuel, and the pulverized organic remains of 2,749 people who died in the towers.

Valerie heard screams in the rental office next door. She ran to see the large-screen TV. As soon as she saw the south tower collapsing, she slumped into a chair and declared, “Oh my God, John is dead.”



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IS 9/11 **Directly Responsible** for the us and global financial crisis?

umm Ameenah

As we all know that the United States and the rest of the world are facing a financial crisis, it will be interesting to examine in greater detail whether 9/11 is directly responsible for this crisis. The attacks in New York and Washington cost the value of the lives lost, property damage and lost of goods production and services; exceeding \$100 billion. This includes the loss in stock market wealth, the market of its own estimate arising from expectations of lower corporate profits and higher discount rates for economic volatility -- the price tag approaches \$2 trillion.¹

Summary of costs the aftermath of 9/11 attacks

- The loss of four civilian aircrafts valued at \$385 million
- The destruction of major buildings in the World Trade Center with a replacement cost of from \$3 billion to \$4.5 billion
- Damage to a portion of the Pentagon: up to \$1 billion
- Cleanup costs: \$1.3 billion

- Property and infrastructure damage: \$10 billion to \$13 billion
- Federal emergency funds (heightened airport security, sky marshals, government takeover of airport security, retrofitting aircraft with anti-terrorist devices, cost of operations in Afghanistan): \$40 billion
- Direct job losses amounted to 83,000, with \$17 billion in lost wages
- The amount of damaged or unrecoverable property hit \$21.8 billion
- Losses to the city of New York (lost jobs, lost taxes, damage to infrastructure, cleaning): \$95 billion
- Losses to the insurance industry: \$40 billion
- Loss of air traffic revenue: \$10 billion
- Fall of global markets: incalculable.²

¹ Institute for the Analysis of Global Security, *How much did the September 11 terrorist attack cost America?* (n.d.), < <http://www.iags.org/costof911.html> >

² Ibid., < <http://www.iags.org/costof911.html> >

HAS 9/11 ACHIEVED ITS GOALS?

According to the Wall Street Journal, they mentioned that the 9/11 attacks had bigger plans, not just killing people and blowing up buildings; the greatest of their aims was to send the shock waves through the American financial system and severely harm the U.S. economy. As Usama bin Laden said that, these attacks had “shaken the thorn of America and hit hard the American Economy at its hard and its core.”³

DIFFERENT OPINIONS ABOUT THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF 9/11

It has been 8 years since the attacks of 9/11. There have been different opinions regarding the impact of U.S. economy after these events took place. This leads to the author to decide about dividing them into three main opinions: the first opinion claims that the 9/11 attacks have only little impact on the U.S. economy; the second one is suggested that the economy before 9/11 was already on recession and the attacks made the recession sink even much deeper; and the last one contends that these attacks on U.S. soil have direct responsibility for today's U.S. and the Global economic crisis.

The first opinion

Researchers of the University Southern California (USC), Center for Risk and Economic Analysis of Terrorisms Event publishes its full report in a special issue of *Peace Economics, Peace Science, and Public Policy*. It said that the 9/11 attacks was less severe than the previous estimation. This new report gave the “credits to the U.S. economy's resolve and resiliency”. The effect after the attacks on the economy as a whole, ranged on average from \$35 billion to \$109 billion of gross domestic product (GDP), or between .5 percent and 1 percent of the annual GDP. Previous studies have estimated losses of as much as \$500 billion, or 5 percent of GDP.⁴

3 Wesbury, B.S., The Wall Street Journal Online, September 11, 2006, *The Post 9/11 Economy*, <www.ftportfolios.com/Commentary/EconomicResearch/2006/9/11>

4 University of Southern California News, *Report: Resiliency softened 9/11's economic blow*, in *Futurity*, July 29, 2009. <<http://futurity.org/society-culture/report-resiliency-softened-911%E2%80%99s-economic-blow/>>

“It shows that Osama bin Laden's policy strategy to damage the U.S. economy was short-lived in its effects due to the resiliency of the U.S. economy,” said **Adam Rose**, a professor in USC's School of Policy, Planning, and Development.⁵

The second opinion

Kimberly Amadeo, a senior economist working in the Arizona Republic – Arizona Public Service, and The Rockport Company – suggested that the U.S. faced recession even before the 9/11 attacks. It lasted eight months; from March to November 2001. This was caused by the Y2K scare (many people thought all the computers would crash after 1999, the computers would not recognize what the date was and all the information in the computer would be lost forever) which created a boom and subsequent bust in Internet businesses.

“It was *aggravated* by the 9/11 attack” which led the economy contracted in two quarters: Quarter 1 -1.3% (-.5%) and Quarter 3 - 1.1% (-1.4%). The unemployment rate reached 5.7% during the recession, but rose even further to 6% in June 2003.⁶ Most employers would wait until they are certain that the economy is back on its feet again before start hiring permanent employees.

The third opinion

Gerald Celente, a top U.S. trend forecaster and the CEO of Trends Research Institute. He is well respected for his track record of picking business, consumer, political, and economic trends before they come to pass.⁷ He said:

Just as the Twin Towers collapsed from the top down, so too will the US economy from an Economic 9/11. When the high-stake speculators, banks, brokerages, and buyout firms that leveraged billions with millions get hit... everything underneath them will turn to rubble...⁸

5 Ibid.

6 Amadeo, K., *The History of Recessions in the United States*, July 31, 2009, <http://useconomy.about.com/od/grossdomesticproduct/a/recession_histo.htm>

7 Coast to Coast AM with George Noory, *Gerald Celente: biography*, (n.d.),

<<http://www.coasttocoastam.com/guest/celente-gerald/5938>>

8 Celente, G., (2007), *Economic 9/11*, *The Trends Journal*, in *Top Trend 2008: Panic and Fear – Solution and Hopes*, December 2007, Vol.XVI (1), <<http://www.trendsresearch.com/journal08.html>>

(Gerald Celente, *Economic 9/11*).

The Economic 9/11 that he had warned would “topple corporate giants” and “crush the man on the street”. While an economic terror strike was long in the making and the devastation long predicted, the financial markets melted down and panic hit the Street.⁹

In 2007, he predicted that an “Economic 9/11” would hit Wall Street in 2008. As the world knows, on September 15, 2008, it did [by permission of Allah ‘Azza wa Jall]. It was a ¹⁰meltdown on Wall Street as the multi-national companies like Lehman, Merrill and AIG collapsed.

Dr Andrew Baker, Queen’s University academic at Belfast, Ireland, made his claims at the launch of a new Politics, Philosophy and Economics degree at Queen’s. He said that “While there is no simple, straight-forward explanation for the recent economic downturn, we can trace the roots of the crisis back to the 9/11 terror attacks. After 9/11 American people were encouraged to spend, spend, spend in the spirit of patriotism, to help restart the flailing economy”.¹¹

Another support opinion of 9/11 has linked with U.S. and global financial crisis is, Professor **Winston Koh**, a Singapore Management University economics academic. He used to work in the U.S. private banking sector during 9/11. “I think there is some relationship between what is happening now in the US and 9/11. Following 9/11, there was a global recession because supply chains were disrupted and trade was affected”.¹² He added that the “sub-prime crisis, it partly had its origin in the aftermath of 9/11 where interest rates were lowered to booster the U.S. economy. So we are seeing some of the effects of 9/11 today”.

⁹ Rense.com, *Trend Alert – Economic 9/11 – Depression Next*, September 18, 2008,

<<http://www.rense.com/general83/cele.htm>>

¹⁰ Keating, C., *Meltdown on Wall Street – Lehman, Merrill, AIG*, September 15, 2008,

<http://blogs.courant.com/capitol_watch/2008/09/major-melt-down-on-wall-street.html>

¹¹ Belfast Telegraph, *Queen’s scholar links credit crunch to 9/11*, October 28, 2008,

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/education/queens-scholar-links-credit-crunch-to-911-14018268.html>

¹² Knowledge@SMU, *The Impact of Terrorism on Economic Growth and Technology Innovation*, February 24, 2008,

<<http://knowledge.smu.edu.sg/article.cfm?articleid=1120>>

U.S. ECONOMY AFTER 9/11

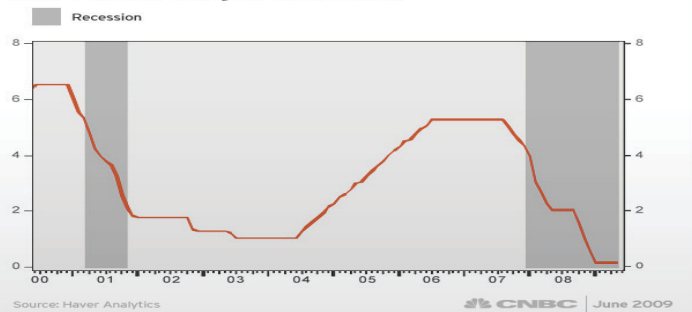
The financial collapse of 2008 has been described as an ‘economic 9/11’ for the United States.... the origin of the collapse can be traced, in part, to the federal government’s response to the 9/11 attacks themselves.¹³

Consumer spending is very important determinant as it makes up about 70% of economic activity in U.S. So it is a very important factor in the U.S. economy’s recovery. To combat recession, President Bush urged Americans, after 2 weeks from 9/11 attacks, to carry on with their lives as usual and keep spending to generate U.S. economic growth or gross domestic product (GDP). He said “Get on board. Do your business around the country, fly and enjoy American great destination spots. Get down Disney World in Florida”.¹⁴

VERY LOW INTEREST RATE ENTICED BORROWERS TO BORROW MONEY AT THE CHEAPEST RATES

Less than a week after the 9/11 attacks, Alan Greenspan, ex-Chairman of Federal Reserve of U.S. (from 1987–2006) also launched a series of interest cuts that brought down the Federal Funds rate to 1%, lowest level in more than 4 decades¹⁵, in 2004.

Federal Open Market Committee:
Fed Funds Target Rate (%)



After September 7, 2001, Fed initiated a series of interest cuts to 1% in 2004.

¹³ CNBC.COM, *Greenspan’s cheap money*,

<<http://media.cnbc.com>>

¹⁴ Bacevich, A.J. (2008), *The Limit of Power: The End of American Exceptionalism*, Melbourne, Griffin Press, pp. 60

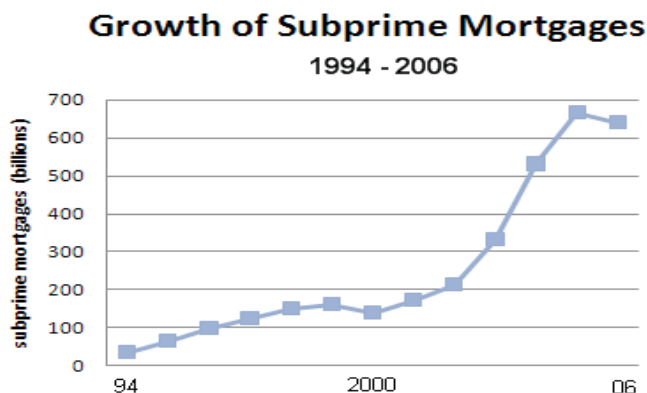
¹⁵ The New York Times, *Another rate cut from the Fed*, December 12, 2001,

<http://www.nytimes.com/2001/12/12/opinion/another-rate-cut-from-the-fed.html>

The low interest rates from 2002-2004, created incredible new demand for mortgages, home equity loans, automobile financing, and other kinds of credit.

SUBPRIME CRISIS LEADS TO U.S. AND GLOBAL FINANCIAL CRISIS

Below is the graph that demonstrated the growth of subprime mortgages:



Source: <http://www.mortgagecalculator.org/helpful-advice/real-estate-bubble.php>

In 2000, the amount of subprime mortgages was \$138 billion, 2001: \$173 billion, 2002: \$213 billion, 2003: \$332 billion, 2004: \$530 billion, 2005: \$665 billion and 2006: \$640 billion.¹⁶ As we notice from the graph that after 2001, the growth of demanding for mortgages continue rising until 2005 and started decline in 2006.

Subprime lending was a major contributor to this increase in home ownership rates and in the overall demand for housing, which drove prices higher.¹⁷

Mortgage brokers such as Lehi Mortgage Services Inc. began to falsify mortgage applications to show more customer incomes than they actually possessed.¹⁸

16 Mortgage calculator, *Real Estate Bubbles: A Historical Perspective*, (n.d.)

<: <http://www.mortgagecalculator.org/helpful-advice/real-estate-bubble.php>>

17 Wikipedia, *Subprime mortgage crisis*, (n.d.), <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Subprime_mortgage_crisis>

18 Blanton, K., AG Charges mortgage broker with fraud, *The Boston Globe*, March 8, 2008, http://www.boston.com/business/personalfinance/articles/2008/03/08/ag_charges_mortgage_broker_with_fraud/

As the housing prices were increasing, consumers saving less¹⁹, they were borrowing more and spending more. Since their homes increasing the value, they can withdraw cash to spend on luxury items such as holiday trips, new cars, etc... through Mortgage Equity Withdrawal (MEWs). Mortgage Equity Withdrawal is that the borrowers able to borrow money against the real value of their houses. MEWs is simply cunning as it is designed to trap borrowers to keep borrowing more money at low interest rates.



Notice that in both 2001 and 2002, without MEW, we would have had two years, in 2001 and 2002, with *negative GDP growth* (or economic growth) *after 9/11 attacks*. Their work suggests that this growth was entirely due to MEWs. In fact, MEWs contributed over 3% to GDP growth in 2004.²⁰ By 2005, the housing bubble was accounting for half of all U.S. economic growth and yielding huge tax revenues to all levels of government. MEWs contributed to GDP growth at 2% in 2006 as we can see that it started declining in contributing to economic growth.

Despite the tax revenues from the bubbles the Bush administration was running huge budget deficits from expenditures on the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.²¹

SINCE THE 9/11 ATTACKS, the United States

19 Bureau of Economic Analysis, *Personal Saving Chart*, January 30, 2009,

<<http://www.bea.gov/briefmr/saving.htm>>

20 Cook, C. R., *They Did It On Purpose: The Housing Bubble & Its Crash were Engineered by the US Government, the Fed & Wall Street*, Global Research, October 23, 2008,

<<http://www.globalresearch.ca/index.php?context=va&aid=10654>>

21 FoxNews.Com, *Afghan War Likely to "Absorb" Potential Savings From U.S. Withdrawal of Iraq*, August 12, 2009,

<<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2009/08/12/afghan-war-likely-absorb-potential-savings-withdrawal-iraq-analysts-say/>>

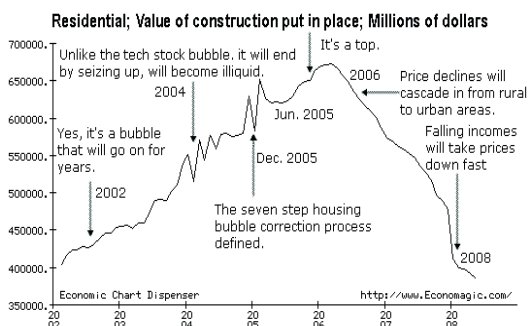
has spent \$864 billion on both wars: \$642 billion in Iraq and \$189 billion in Afghanistan; according to new Pentagon estimates. The estimate assumed the price tag for wars would exceed \$100 billion almost every year through 2019, despite pre-existing commitments to withdraw U.S. troops from Iraq by the end of 2011.

Without US homeowners using their homes as an ATM, the economy would have been very sluggish indeed, averaging much less than 1% for the six years of the Bush presidency. Indeed, as a side observation, without home equity withdrawals the economy would have been so bad it would have been almost impossible for Bush to have won a second term.²²

SUBPRIME CRISIS BUBBLE STARTS

This credit and house price explosion led to a building boom and eventually to a surplus of unsold homes, which caused U.S. housing prices to peak and begin declining in mid-2006.²³ The housing bubble starts bursting in approximately 2005-2006.

Summary of iTulip's Housing Bubble Updates, 2002 - 2008



As we can see from this graph, the housing prices began to decline in downward from 2006 onward.

This major event as unexpected decline in house prices means that many borrowers have zero or negative equity in their homes, meaning their homes values were worth less than their mortgage debts. Borrowers, who could not make the higher payments once the initial extravagant period ended, would try to refinance their mortgages. Refinancing became more difficult, once house prices began to

22 Mauldin, J., *The financial and Economic Blue Screen of Death*, The Market Oracle, October 18, 2008,

<<http://www.marketoracle.co.uk/Article6849.html>>

23 Standard & Poor's, *Home Price Declines Worsen As We Enter the Fourth Quarter of 2008*, December 30, 2008,

<http://www2.standardandpoors.com/spf/pdf/index/CSHome-Price_Release_123062.pdf>

decline in many parts of the USA.

As more borrowers stop paying their mortgage payments, foreclosures and the supply of homes for sale increase. This places downward pressure on housing prices, which further lowers homeowners' equity. The decline in mortgage payments also reduces the value of 'mortgage-backed securities', which erodes the net worth and financial health of banks.²⁴

Mortgage-backed securities (MBS) are debt obligations that represent claims to the cash flows from pools of mortgage loans, most commonly on residential property. MBSs are issued by the Government National Mortgage Association (Ginnie Mae), a U.S. government agency, or the Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae) and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac), U.S. government-sponsored enterprises.²⁵ When the mortgage market melted down, Fannie Mae (total debts of about \$800bn) and Freddie Mac (about \$740bn) also collapsed, as they account for more than 50% of the US mortgage market. The U.S government started to bail out these two largest mortgage finance companies in September 2008.²⁴

CAUSES OF CRISIS

In summary, the crisis can be attributed to a number of factors pervasive in both housing and credit markets, factors which emerged over a number of years. Causes proposed include the inability of homeowners to make their mortgage repayments, due primarily to adjustable rate mortgages resetting, borrowers overextending, predatory lending (the practice of unscrupulous lenders), speculation and overbuilding during the boom period, risky mortgage products, high personal and corporate debt levels, financial products that distributed and perhaps concealed the risk of mortgage default, monetary policy (a series of interest rate cut), international trade imbalances, and government regulation (or the lack thereof).²⁵

The U.S.'s financial crisis had sent the shock waves to the rest of the world. In the middle of September

24 Wikipedia, *Subprime mortgage crisis*, (n.d.),

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Subprime_mortgage_crisis>

25 U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, *Mortgage-Backed Securities*,

<<http://www.sec.gov/answers/mortgagesecurities.htm>>

2008, for examples, governments from London to Berlin have seized or bailed out five faltering banks. In Ireland, where rumors of panicked withdrawals from banks spooked the stock market, the government has offered a two-year blanket guarantee on all deposits and bank debt. Countries that suffered housing bubbles — like Ireland, Britain and Spain — are especially vulnerable, as are several Eastern European countries and other emerging markets, which are running steep current account deficits and low foreign currency reserves.²⁶

Before ending, the author would like to quote a comment from Mr. Rasmussen's blog,

I, for one, think Mr. Bin Laden is having some good laughs in his resident somewhere. The 9/11 incident did indeed crash those towers, but it also did crash the world economy. Yet, you can very well choose to interpret today's situation as a result of 9/11 and thus maybe he did succeed after all.²⁷



26 Landler, M., The U.S. Financial Crisis Is Spreading to Europe, The New York Times, September 30, 2008, < <http://www.nytimes.com/2008/10/01/business/worldbusiness/01global.html> >

27 Rasmussen, S., Financial Crisis and 9/11, October 11, 2008, < <http://www.mindovermadness.org/2008/10/11/financial-crisis-and-911-rant-engage/> >



THE BATTLE OF MA'ARIB

IN THE MONTH OF SHA'BAN 1430





All American Media - September 12th, 2001

“Yesterday, in a daring display of courage and expertise, agents of the covert operations wing of the Al-Qa’idah Islamic resistance movement, completed a successful aerial raid on the World Trade Center, widely known across the globe to be the true heart of America’s oppressive foreign policy and the source of funding for its global terrorism network. Joe Q. Public has the rest of the story...Joe... John...”

“Today marked the first time America has come under attack on its own soil since...”

Ok. That is a bit closer to what probably *SHOULD* have been reported. Unfortunately, this is not the headline America or the rest of the world would see. In lieu of a more objective stance on the happenings of 9/11, the operation that was successfully directed at America’s financial/terroristic foreign policy center would be referred to rather as being carried out by ‘cowards’ and the operation declared an unacceptable act of ‘terrorism’. In the ensuing months and years afterwards, many otherwise good hearted, compassionate Americans would be preyed upon by their government and brainwashed through media manipulation into believing that these actions were absolutely baseless and that America is the heart of freedom, the epitome of virtue, and needed to be defended to the death and emulated by the rest of the world in order to ensure the continuity of ‘civilization’.

Americans should not have been so shocked. Not because they wanted their nation to come under attack, but because if they knew or were assisted in seeing the truth about what the United States government was (and is still) doing in their name with their hard earned tax dollars, they would have expected that sooner or later, the actions of their “democratically” elected representatives of this failed dictatorship, in a natural course of events, would bring about some form of retaliation for the atrocities they had plotted, supported, and financed around the entire globe.

Yes... atrocities. Plotted and funded by the American government. Several of the most poignant details of the history of this war against Islam and the *Ummah*, in this case Afghanistan and Palestine specifically, have been hidden from the eyes of the public through either a twisting of words, or by the journalistic sin of omission. Not putting into full public view the full length speeches of the leaders of Jihad.

The policy of Zionists and their supporters has been for decades upon decades, a thorn in the side of the world as a whole. Making every effort to support the raping and pillaging of a people and a land that at one time, before western interference, lived at peace in a non-segregated, tolerant, religious society. But since the onset of the political state of Israel, the policies of murder, theft and destruction of private property have reigned supreme and created a holocaust that is every bit as evil and cold bloodedly inhuman as those

perpetrated by National Socialists and Communists in years past. For example, how many times are Americans asked what they would do by reporters, **if their country was invaded by a foreign power and their homes requisitioned and bulldozed with their grandmother and innocent children inside left to be crushed and killed by tanks and engineering vehicles while they were forced to stand by and watch in horror as their family was murdered and buried under a pile of rubble right before their eyes?** One could safely assume those kind of questions are not going to be asked or properly addressed on CNN, Hannity or the O'Reilly factor anytime soon. And why is that? The answer is that America's propaganda machine has taken on a life of its own. It no longer needs to act with any kind of real concerted effort to brainwash its citizenry into ignoring the hypocrisy and amoral stance it takes on the erasure of human dignity. It has begun now to spawn from its calculated Psychological Warfare Operations style media, a host of puppet figures to carry on the lies about those who resist its policies while acting (unbeknownst to the puppets) under the guise of patriotic anti-big government conservatives.

The truth is these questions HAVE been asked. And they HAVE been properly addressed. In fact they are CONSISTENTLY addressed. The problem is that the American people are devoid of any desire to see or even be open to watching or searching for these interviews because they have been programmed to disregard anything that does not further the American governments foreign agenda. And what

is painful for one to observe, is just how deeply the lies have taken root. The roots are now so deep that while the citizenry blindly and uniformly condemn the martyrdom operations of Islamic resistance fighters against a perverse, Godless form of government, it simultaneously sends off hordes of its own sons and daughters to promote and die for, the perverse ideologies of the sadistic masters that rule over them.

The war against Islamic rule in Afghanistan has gone into its 8th year now. So we might think. The facts however, tell a much different story. This current conflict has a much longer and far more interesting historical origin than most of the people fighting this battle or their misguided societal peers could or perhaps will ever conceive.

It is consistently ignored that while the late 1970's and early to late 1980's were a time of struggle and victory over Godlessness and oppression that America had actually taken the right side in and they had supported that struggle with American money and arms for the Afghan *mujahideen* against Soviet Russia, to include **Shaykh Usama bin Laden**, that the people of Afghanistan, after doing America's job of preventing the Soviet regime from expanding its claws in an embarrassing death blow defeat for Communist Russia, were left to rot and cut off entirely from any means of assistance with the rebuilding of Afghanistan and abandoned to what would become a chaotic land of warlords and corruption instead of an autonomous Islamic land of freedom and justice.



But what if the truth in America WERE told? What if America WAS helped to change the cognitive dissonance that so deeply affects its citizens? It would be a different world in America if Americans peacefully refused to allow their children to be sent off to partake in a war that their own government has essentially manifested by their abandoning of the Afghan people; or refused to enlist in the Military and hence drained the military of its capability of engaging in more imperialistic occupations and abandonment of entire populations of people allowing for the mass genocides and torturous practices that have taken place in Iraq, Palestine, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Somalia, Egypt, and many other places. If the citizens brought their children up NOT to be so nationalistic and blindly obedient to its flag and what it stands for but to question the ideas of democracy and its inherent unfairness in governance, things would be different. The world would not be subject to America's failed and corrupt foreign policy and the American people could perhaps afford a viable national health care system in lieu of trillions of dollars spent on warring against a religion and an Ideology that they have no understanding of.

Shaykh Ayman al-Zawahiri very frequently addresses these issues on major news channels throughout the world on media outlets such as Al-Jazeera and other media sources such as as-Sahab media, and yet, America turns their heads when he speaks because they have been taught that a man such as this can only be the devil incarnate and could have nothing positive, truthful or informative to say. But the opposite is true. Shaykh al-Zawahiri not only invites Americans to embrace Islam and peacefully work to effectively change the anesthetized moral and spiritual conscience of its people, but also spends a great deal of time focusing his efforts for the sake of Allah speaking out against his own country of origin (Egypt) and other despotic Apostate rulers in the Islamic world who partake in the mass genocide of Muslims and the war against Islam.

There also exists a fallacy within the media that Shaykh Usama bin Laden is a man ignorant of his own religion. A man who has 'hijacked' Islam when the real truth is that the department of defense has hired a private consulting corporation to draft a democratization agenda for Islam and is using that

agenda, to create a version of Islam to its liking. So who has *really* 'hijacked' Islam? And all this goes on while videos and speeches of Shaykh Usama clearly display his deep understanding of the religion of Islam and his spiritual motivation for the sake of Allah are ignored.

And so it can be seen quite clearly that **blind patriotism** has become the order of the day rather than questioning the motives of the ruling officials of the United States. Americans are being desensitized to feeling any responsibility to the rest of the world for their own actions. If this were not so, American Military bases wouldn't be the bane of their host town's existence. Because where the military is, there is prostitution and all manner of immorality that follows the amoral soldiers like a circus act waiting for the inevitable hand out in exchange for self-exploitation. Perhaps if America knew that their sons were committing adultery and acts of brutality overseas by raping women or participating in sex slave rings through procuring young underage teen prostitutes for sexual gratification in lewd orgies instead of rescuing them from this life of degradation, Americans would have a different mindset about these men in uniform that they welcome home with such joy after they have returned from a year of torturing, murdering, raping and ruining the dignity of the people and countries they have left behind to return home to their comfortable couches and secure paychecks for 'a job well done'.

But this is not a job well done. And any good and compassionate American knows this. Which is why perhaps more and more of Americas sons are coming forward and participating in Jihad right here on American soil and as well even commanding units overseas. America would be a much different place if the truth were told. But it seems now that the truth is reaching someone, somehow. Complacency and fear are slowly giving way to truth, honor, and sacrifice for the sake of Allah and the agents of change are fighting back. Perhaps America will be different and hence the criminal activity against Muslim lands as well.



خَيْنَ آمَنُوا مَا لَكُمْ إِذَا قِيلَ لَكُمْ انْفِرُوا

فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أَنَا قَاتِلُهُمْ

صلى على الجهاد 8

اضرب
الله مولانا
ابدا
اقذف
فجروكم

لنا الله
قم
جاك
اسد
كبوا

ارهابي انا
لم يعد
وافغان
بارودتي
الاكل والمال

تركت
اعذروني
يمن الله
يوم تجتوا
نكابة

THE MEN BEHIND 9/11

AND THE MOTIVES THAT BOUND THEM

ABU 'ABDULLAH AS-SAYF JONES



We always remember the major events of history, but we tend to however forget the men and women who were behind them. Knowing and understanding who these men and women were, what is the background that they came from, what was their actual self proclaimed motive for doing whatever it is that they did, and further details are what really help us to understand the reality of the event itself and why it had such a major impact in history. The 8th anniversary of the 9-11 Attacks has come upon us. There is not a person who can object to the fact that the events of September 11th 2001 have played a major role in shaping the current state of world as we see it. We know of the events, we know how it was carried out, we know the various ways it has affected society today, but what do we know of the men behind it? What was it that brought these men together to perform what can be considered the event that re-shaped the modern world? Who were the men behind September 11th, 2001?

On June 16th, 2004 the 9-11 commission held its 12th and final public hearing. It was on this day that the commission heard the testimony from top

law enforcement and intelligence experts on al-Qa'idah and the 9-11 attacks. A question that had seemed to be avoided was eventually asked, "What motivated them to do it"? The exact words of the Vice Chair Lee Hamilton of the 9-11 commission were; *"I'm interested in the question of motivation of these hijackers and my question is really directed to the agents. What have you found out about why these men did what they did? What motivated them to do it?"* The response from the law enforcement and intelligence experts was *"I believe they feel a sense of outrage against the United States, they identify with the Palestinian problem, they identify with people who oppose repressive regimes, and I believe they tend to focus their anger on the US"*. It is interesting to know that this testimony was kept out of the 9-11 Commission report and no recommendation was given to address this motive for the 9-11 attacks, despite it having been brought up to Lee Hamilton himself on multiple occasions. So is it possible that this could have been the ultimate motive of these men who carried out the 9-11 attacks? Why don't we look to the testimonies of these men themselves?

We will now take a look into the minds of these

men in search of the common motive which bound them and brought them together to do what it is that they did. Our sources will be entirely reliant upon the releases from as-Sahab Media who have released the video wills of some of the hijackers.

slaves from worship of the slaves to the worship of Allah alone.

Abu Mus'ab was said to see the Muslim *Ummah* as a nation which lost its dignity and wanted to be among those who served in the frontlines of



ABU MUS'AB WALID AL-SHEHRI

Abu Mus'ab Walid al-Shehri was one of the hijackers on American Airlines Flight 11, the one which crashed into the World Trade Center. He was born in Asir, Saudi Arabia a poor region bordering the nation of Yemen. He was said to be a humble person, always seeking to find ways to please Allah even if it were the smallest form of *'Ibadah*. Usama bin Ladin said about the character of Abu Mus'ab:

Abu Mus'ab Walid al-Shehri, rahimahullah, recognized the truth and complied with it. And falsehood made itself pretty for him, but he avoided it. He was not shaken by the power and plots of the Taghoot among the leaders or the praising of them by the people of evil among the Scholars. It was his destiny to live in an era in which the tide of the Jews and Nazarenes rose and the tide of the Muslim ebbed and they became bewildered.

Usama bin Ladin depicted Abu Mus'ab as a person destined for this time. Someone who was perfect for the environment we are living in today. Usama bin Ladin also said commenting on the character of Abu Mus'ab:

Abu Musab al-Shehri came and found these bitter and debasing conditions, whereas yesterday, our nation was at the forefront of the nations, pioneering and leading the world and liberating the people and extracting the

the battle to earn back this sense of *'Izzah* (honor & glory). He saw the Muslims within the lands of Jihad as 'free prisoners'; meaning even though they were not technically prisoners or slaves of the enemies of Allah, they were still imprisoned by the harsh oppression on both a physical and ideological scale.

Abu Mus'ab is said to be a person who recognized deception and saw right through the lies of the people whom he considered liars. He disliked the fact that he saw many fighting each other not in pursuit of Allah's pleasure or *Jannah*, but instead for personal interests and worldly gain. Abu Mus'ab is depicted as someone who saw the world and the people within it as truly corrupt and was devastated by the thought that his people (i.e., Muslims) were among the leading nations in this corruption. Abu Mus'ab was offered time and time again what can be called 'the worldly comforts', but chose what Usama bin Ladin called 'the eternal life'.

Within his final testimony Abu Mus'ab al-Shehri states:

The condition of Islam at the present time makes one cry and the state of the Islamic nation brings one to tears, in view of the weakness, humiliation, scorn, and

enslavement it is suffering. Because it neglected the obligations of Allah and His orders and permitted the forbidden things and abandoned Jihad in Allah's path. It is because of this that Allah has humiliated them as a just punishment.

He believed in the common belief of today that the suffering inflicted upon the Muslims is a direct punishment for the deliberate disobedience against Allah and what He has commanded. While this punishment and suffering brought pain and sadness to the heart of men like Abu Mus'ab, he and others saw it as necessary. Abu Mus'ab believed that the only way this punishment from Allah could be lifted off of the Muslim *Ummah* is as he said within his final testimony, "*Awaken from its slumber and arise from its sleep*". He expressed his belief within his final testimony that the only solution for the Muslims was for them to take immediate actions and to stop waiting for things to just happen. He quoted *Imam* Abu 'Abdullah al-Haleemi who said in *Shu'ab al-Iman*:

Allah informs us that were it not for Allah's repelling of the polytheists with the Muslim and domination of them by the Muslim and the Muslim's defense of the helmet of Islam and the breaking of the polytheist's strength and the splitting of their ranks, polytheism would have taken over the world and the religion would have been removed. So by this it is proven that the cause of the survival and expansion of this religion is Jihad in Allah's path and something of such status is more deserving of being of the pillar of Iman and of having the believers be eager for it to the greatest extent possible.

Abu Mus'ab felt that he truly understood this and saw it to be the truth. That Islam was not a religion that relied solely of divine reinforcement, miracles, and waiting for Allah to clean up our messes. Instead

Islam is a religion that called for its followers to rise up and take the task upon themselves to see it expanded and dominate. Abu Mus'ab al-Shehri believed this and felt the task that each and every Muslim needed to take the path of Jihad in the cause of Allah.

Abu Mus'ab within his final testimony and was also known to throughout his life, strongly condemned the Apostate rulers for their cooperation with the occupation forces that had spread into the Muslim land. However he also saw these apostate regimes as well as the Jewish occupation in Palestine as side effects of a much more evil source. He saw America as the epicenter for all of the Muslim's problems. He is quoted in his final testimony saying:

Among them is America, May Allah destroy it, which has been among the chief causes of every misfortune suffered by Islam and the Muslims.

He saw the American occupation of Saudi Arabia permitted by the Scholars of the land – even though contradicting the command of our Messenger – as an affliction that this nation has never before seen. He strongly expressed that the land of Arabia was not the property of the house of Saud, but was to be treasured by each and every Muslim and that the house of Saud was to give up their positions of power or change their ways. He despised those who attempted to flatter the rulers or handle them with ease and kindness. He saw that the only permissible action at this point for those living under these rulers was to rebel and to establish Allah's governance where it has been made absent. He scoffed at the fact that there were at that time 60,000 to possibly 70,000 prisoners in Egypt's



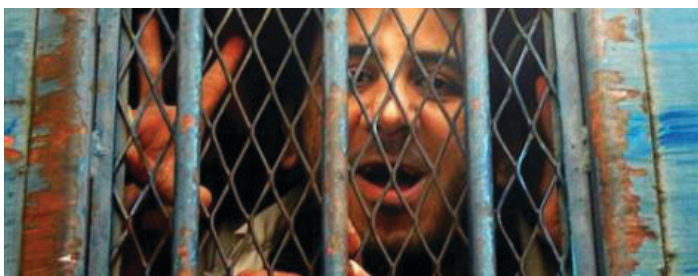
prisons, but yet the people sat idly. He was pained at the announcements of the executions of Muslim activists. He despised the stories that came from the prisons of Saudi Arabia where it is heard that extreme forms of torture are used on prisoners. Abu Mus'ab felt the men within these prisons were not criminals, but instead were pious and sincere believers whose only crime was to say *La ilaha illa Allah*.

Abu Mus'ab took on the task of his final operation willingly and gladly. He saw the methodology of strapping oneself with explosives and other methods of martyrdom operations as something that inflicted great damage to the enemy. So naturally the idea of an attack like the one we saw on 9-11 attracted the mind of this man. Abu Mus'ab did not see this form of warfare as suicide, because those who performed the martyrdom operations were not doing so out of despair or to escape depression as that is how suicide is defined by Allah. He saw it as a sacrifice for Allah and an honorable way to leave this world. He said within his final testimony:

As for the executor of the martyrdom operations, he only killed himself for the victory of the religion.

Abu Mus'ab is depicted to be a man who hated corruption and loved justice. He ended his final testimony with sincere advice to the Muslims. He said:

So go forth to restore the glories of your *Ummah* and recover your plundered territories and occupied holy places. Allah, Glorious and Exalted is He, says, **'Go forth whether equipped lightly or heavily and strive and struggle with your goods and your persons in the cause of Allah. That is best for you if you but knew.'** (9:41). What is preventing you from going forth and going out and emigrating and performing Jihad? Are you waiting for the fatwas from the Scholars who stay behind? Such fatwas will never, ever be issued by those, unless Allah wills otherwise. Or do you want the fatwas from the evil Scholars of the rulers, who have ruined the religion and worldly life? We ask Allah to take revenge on them. How can you await fatwas when Allah is urging us and ordering us to Jihad?!



ABU AL-'ABBAS AL-JANUBI

Abu al-'Abbas has been said to be an example for contemporary scholars. Someone who protected knowledge from those who wished to see it abolished. His full name is **Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn 'Abdur al-Rahman al-'Umari as-Zahraani**. He was born and raised in Huraan village, al-Makhwaah district, in al-Baahah city which is in the South of the Arabian Peninsula. His father is a man of knowledge and a teacher in al-Makhwaah's main Masjid. He moved to al-Qaseem in order to seek knowledge from a number of the peninsula's scholars including; **Shaykh Muhammad ibn 'Uthaymeen**, **Shaykh Khalid al-Mashayqah**, **Shaykh 'Abdur Rahman al-Shamsaan**, **Shaykh 'Abdullah al-Ghunaymaan** and others.

Abu al-'Abbas is reported to have memorized the Qur'an in only two months. It is also said he memorized Saheeh al-Bukhari with its chains of narrators, Imam al-Nawawi's 40 Hadeeth with its chains of narrators, and **Umdat ul-Akhaam** with its chains of narrators. He is described as a free and independent scholar. He traveled to Afghanistan in pursuit of becoming a Mujahid. He took his military training very seriously and with determination. However this time consuming process did not hold him back from sharing the knowledge which he had learned in the Arabian Peninsula with his brothers in Afghanistan. Much time was spent with him and others learning the *deen*. He is said to have had both a pain for the suffering of the Muslim *Ummah* and an eagerness to seek martyrdom. His dream was fulfilled when he was selected to carry out the



Jamal al-Dura is looking toward the corner of the junction and waving his hand.



Father attempting to shield his son.



Father looking across street, directly toward Palestinian photojournalist Talal Abu Rahma who was filming the event.



Camera goes out of focus, apparently during firing of fatal shot.



Father and son both shot, the boy fatally.

assaults on New York City and Washington DC, assaults we know now as 9-11. He was said to be a hard worker who took every task given to him with the utmost seriousness. Abu al-‘Abbas like the other hijackers wanted to serve as a role model for today’s Muslim youth.

Abu al-Abbas was among the crew who hijacked the American Airlines Flight 11, which flew into the first tower of the World Trade Center. He left this world with a final testimony in which he claimed the only reason he had written it for was to clarify the reasons why he had taken upon himself the task of the 9-11 assaults.

He states first within his final testimony:

When I embarked upon this action, I set out firmly believing in the correctness and good results of the methodology that I had adopted and convinced of the duty obligatory upon me. With this act of mine, I

discharge my duty and bring to life the obligation of Jihad in the *Ummah*.

Abu al-‘Abbas felt that what he planned to do in the 9-11 raids was an act that could inspire the Muslim *Ummah* and through it Allah would give guidance to those who wished to take action themselves. He had no doubt that what he was doing was correct and he believed that the good results that would come from his actions would outweigh any bad. He saw Jihad as something specifically ordained within the Qu’ran and Sunnah. Abu al-‘Abbas stressed that it was an obligation upon each and every Muslim to save themselves from the humiliation and suffering and to rescue those who could not save themselves.

He said within his final testimony:

When I sacrificed myself cheaply for Allah’s cause, I did not do so in order to escape from the life of hardship, as those whom Allah has disgraced allege or because I couldn’t live like others live. No, by Allah, when I left home in the prime of my youth, I left in the name of Allah. While enjoying the finest of food and drink, living in a luxurious home, driving a beautiful car, and able to find an attractive job. But I asked myself, ‘and then what?’ We carry a burden of responsibility and the obligation weighs heavy on the shoulders.

Something that we see that is very common among these men is that they mostly all come from very wealthy and luxurious backgrounds. However they choose what they consider ‘the path of Allah’ and give up these countless luxuries. Abu al-‘Abbas is no different as he too could have had anything he desired, but he asked himself a very simple question: **‘And then what?’** He felt it was this question that opened his mind and hearts to what he considered the guidance of Allah.

He addressed his main concern within his final testimony having said:

I have set out at a time when you see the cowardly Jews, with the endorsement and assistance of America (itself another face of the Jews), killing and displacing the Muslim and doing all manner of things to them. Perhaps you saw with your own eyes Muhammad, that innocent powerless Palestinian child who was brutally murdered by the Jews out of pure Jewish hatred. And where is the criminality occurring? In the environs of Al-Aqsa Masjid, in the environs of Al-Aqsa Masjid, in the place where our Prophet made his Night-Journey! The Muslims are dying, but we don’t care and we talk about values and morality. We live out our lives in song and play and we spend our lives in hearsay and gossip I embarked when I saw the

Jewish and Christian infidels openly making war on Allah's religion and spilling blood morning, noon, and night.

Abu al-'Abbas was outraged at the acts being committed by the Jews in the land of Palestine. He points out one specific incident which has become an icon among the Muslim Ummah. This incident being the killing of the young Palestinian boy, Muhammad, and his father behind whom young Muhammad hid in order to avoid the bullets of the Jews. Abu al-'Abbas despised the suffering of the Muslim *Ummah*, but even more so the fact that the Muslims are doing nothing to change it. He pointed out how Muslims speak of values and morals, but yet seem too often forget about the suffering of the global Muslim *Ummah*.



AHMED AL-HAZNAWI AL-GHAMDI

Ahmed al-Haznawi is from the land of the two sacred shrines of Islam, from the tribe of Ghamid. Ahmed was said to be a lecturer, a preacher, a person of great knowledge, and stressed the utmost importance to be in search of both martyrdom and knowledge. Both of his parents were people of knowledge and both were teachers among their peers. It is said that Ahmed always possessed a love for Jihad in the cause of Allah, so it was not a surprise when he migrated to Afghanistan in order to become a Mujahid. He was one of the 19 men who participated in the 9-11 assaults on New York City and Washington DC. He left only his final will to make clear his true intentions.

He states within his final will:

One who looks at the state of our wounded *Ummah* today sees murder, expulsion, and torture. Sanctity has been violated, blood has been shed, and innocents have been killed. All of this and more befalls our brethren across the globe. Here is Palestine for more than a half century. It wounds continue to bleed.

Ahmed like the others felt an extreme dislike of the suffering Muslims were going through, specifically mentioning the Palestinian issue. He, like the others, felt a sincere obligation to use their lives to change this



condition or at the least that their actions would inspire others to take the task upon themselves.

It can be safely said after doing the proper research, that each of these 19 men who carried out the 9-11 assaults were brought together and bound by one common thing: **An extreme hatred for those who caused any form of harm to any Muslim on any part of the globe.** They all felt as if they were obligated to make a stand and be pioneers in what many are calling today, 'The Islamic Awakening'. The addressing of this is something that the 9-11 commission and the U.S. government in general have worked consistently to avoid. Could it be possible that if the American people were to understand the actual motive of the 19 hijackers of the 9-11 raids then they would begin to see the events taking place around the world a bit more differently? Would they begin to understand how dangerous it is to be allied with a nation such as Israel? Would they actually be capable of, for once, thinking for themselves outside of the mainstream opinion? Allah knows best.

Here is a list of the rest of the 19 Hijackers who were not mentioned already and what has been said of them:



Muhammad 'Ataa: Also known as 'Abdur ar-Rahman al-Masri. He led the assault in American Flight 11 in the attack on the first tower of the World Trade Center. He was said to be earnestness, diligent and truthful. He was depicted as a person who carried the weight of the *Ummah's* suffering on his back and was someone who sought to be on the front lines to lift away this suffering.



Ziyad al-Jaraah: Also known as Abu Tariq al-Libnani. Originally from Lebanon he traveled to Afghanistan in pursuit of rising among the ranks of the *mujahideen*. He was described to be a refined person who was always in a state of modest and humbleness.



Marwan al-Shehhi: Also called Al-Qa'qa al-Qatari, he was originally from the United Arab Emirates. He participated in the assault on the second tower of the World Trade Center. He like many others was desired by the world for his great amount of knowledge and skills; however this was not what he sought. He was said to have rather be in pursuit of Allah's pleasure than dive into the desires of this world.



Hani Hanjour: Also known as Urwah al-Taa'ifi and comes from the people of Taa'if. He helped in the assault on the Pentagon. He is said to have been a person who possessed a natural purity. His love for Islam, Jihad, and his yearning for martyrdom was something admired among his brothers in Afghanistan.



Ahmed ibn 'Abdullah al-Na'ami: Also known as Abu Hashim. He comes from the tribe of Quraysh and is said to be from Ahlul Bayt. He is reported to have been a person who was diligent in performing acts of worship. It is said he loved to pray the night prayers and never belittled any act of worship for the sake of Allah. Depicted as a person who was gentle in manners, he reported to have once had a dream. In this dream he saw the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) and they were riding together on horseback. The Prophet ordered him to dismount his steed and to fight the enemies of Allah and liberate the lands of the Muslim.



Sataam al-Suqaami: Also called Azmi, is said to have been from Najd, from the land of the two sacred shrines in Islam. He was said to have been a person of determination, resolve, manliness, and courage. Usama bin Ladin commented on Sataam by saying; "When you saw him you recalled the hadith of Rasoolullah: 'The most severe of my *Ummah* on the Anti-Christ are the children of Tameem'."



Maajid Muqad al-Harbi: Also known as Al-Ahnaf. He was from the city of Madinah. His character was described to be in a way that his faith and modesty always complimented each other. He was said to be a person who was exceptionally humble and refine.



Khalid al-Mihdaar: Also called Sinaan. Another one from Mecca and also was reported to have been from Ahlul Bayt. He was a man who was said to have been constantly in pursuit of martyrdom.



Rabi'ah Nawaaf al-Hasmi: Also called Rabi'ah al-Makki and was from Mecca. He is said to have been a man of purpose, someone who truly believed in the cause of Allah. He was depicted as a person of determination who took every task seriously and performed it properly. It was said he wanted martyrdom more than anything else.

Saalim al-Hamsi: Also known as Bilal and is the brother of Rabi'ah Nawaaf al-Hasmi. Usama bin Ladin commented on this young man by saying "Allah threw *Iman* into his heart so he left everything". It is said that his motto was, "Paradise is under the shade of the swords".



Hayaz al-Raadi Bani Hamaad: Better known as Ahmad; was said to be a man of sacrifice, willing to give his life at any given moment for the sake of Allah.



Hamza al-Ghamidi: Also known as Julaybeeb. It is said that the love of Jihad took over his heart and he grew a deep passion for being a Mujahid in Allah's cause. He is depicted to be a person who was always diligent in worship, constantly in the remembrance of Allah and was skilled in the recitation of the Qur'an. Usama bin Ladin said about him, "He chose his words as if they were beautiful fruit".



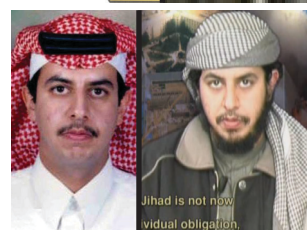
Ikrimah Ahmad al-Ghamidi: A person of great patience and generosity. He recited in poetry, "*How to sit still and how can a Muslim be calm, when the Muslim women are with the enemy aggressor, those who say when they fear a scandal, the most they could possibly say: 'Would that we were never born!'*"



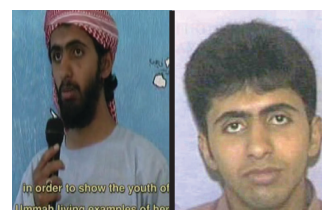
Mu'taz Sa'eed al-Ghamidi: It is said that when you met this brother you remembered the verse from the Noble Qur'an; **Let there arise out of you a group of people inviting to all that is good, enjoining Al-Ma'ruf and forbidding Al-Munkar. And it is they who are the successful** (3:104). He is depicted as a person who when he saw that which was wrong, he corrected it, and when he saw that which was right, praised it. Usama bin Ladin said about him, "his body was on earth but his heart roamed with the green birds".



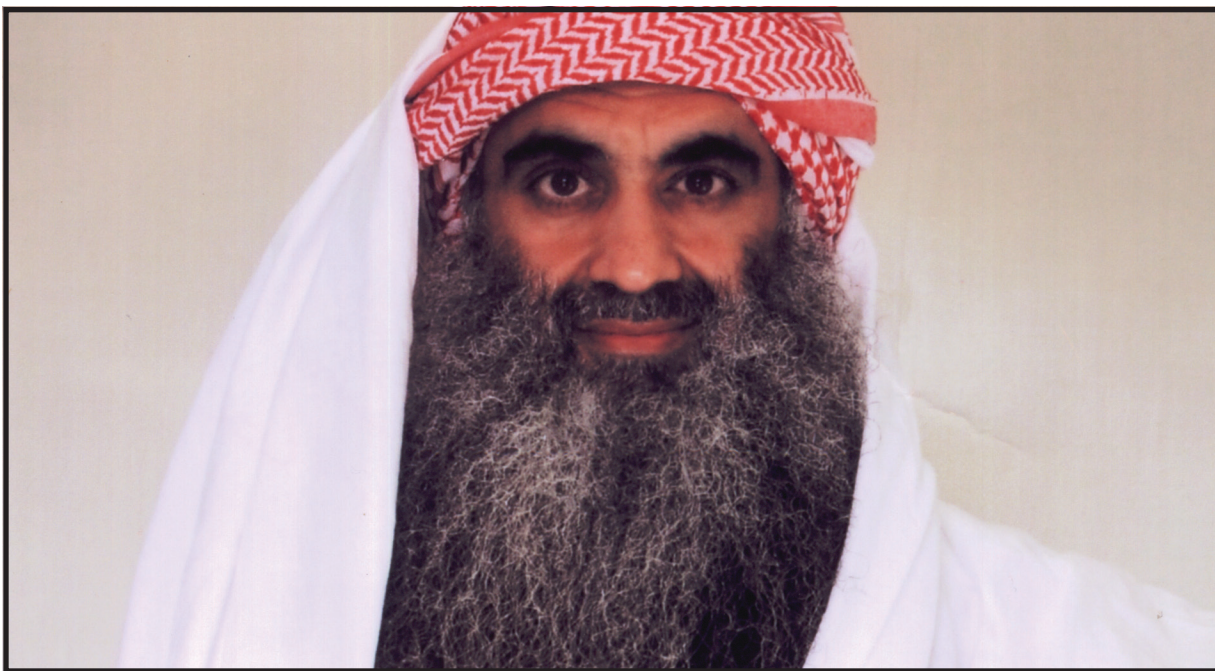
Waa'il al-Shehri: The brother of Abu Mus'ab Walid al-Shehri. He was said to be a man of devotion who spent most of his spare time in worship, particularly he loved to perform the night prayers.



'Umar Muhammad al-Shehri: He is depicted to have been someone who sought martyrdom with sincerity. Always possessing patience when others didn't.



PICTURE FLASH

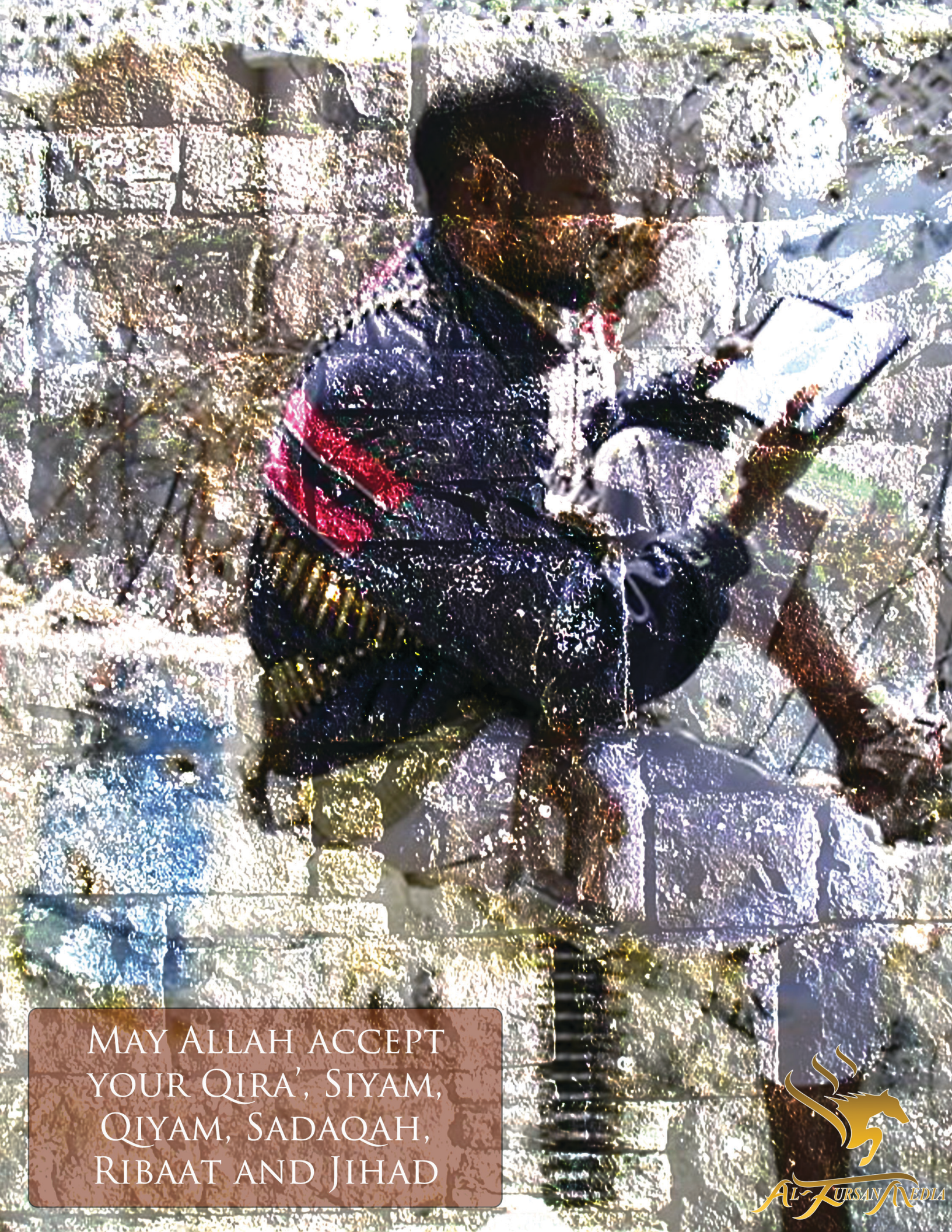


[A picture of 9/11 mastermind in Guantanamo, Khalid Sheikh Muhammad]



[An advert from WWF which read, 'The tsunami killed 100 times more people than 9/11']

Picture Flash is a collection of photos showing significant events around the world.

A man with a beard and mustache, wearing a black and red striped shirt and black pants, is holding a rifle. He is standing in front of a stone wall. The image is a composite of several smaller images, creating a collage effect.

MAY ALLAH ACCEPT
YOUR QIRA', SIYAM,
QIYAM, SADAQAH,
RIBAAT AND JIHAD

